



3 1761 11653029 6

GOVT PUBNS

CAZON

Z1

-77P22

Government
Publications

516

(32)

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

THE ONTARIO FEDERATION ON LABOUR

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761116530296>

S U B M I S S I O N

presented to

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE

NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

from

THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

Mr. Commissioner:

We welcome this opportunity to appear before these hearings, and relate to you some of our concerns about the northern environment and the process of your inquiry.

The labour movement was extremely pleased when we learned of the establishment of your Commission. We consider that such an inquiry is very long overdue.

The Ontario Federation of Labour represents over 800,000 unionists in this province, who belong to 110 unions. These members, with their families, comprise a sizeable proportion of the population of Ontario, and a considerable percentage of this number reside in the cities and towns just north and south of the fiftieth parallel. These working people from the North have for years been attending and participating in labour conferences, educational seminars, and annual policy conventions, where they have detailed their concerns to the OFL. We are here today in response to these concerns.

We regret that it required widespread public reaction to two years of secret negotiations between the government and the Reed Paper Company before this Commission was established. Most recently we in the labour movement have been confronted with the fait accompli of thousands of lost jobs in Sudbury, at Inco and Falconbridge, without prior negotiations, consultation, or proper warning of any kind. We are thus presently more acutely appreciative than ever of the frustration and outrage of northerners, both native and otherwise, who have been systematically excluded from every level of policy formulation and economic planning regarding the North in the past.

In so many ways the evolution of the Reed scheme (whatever its present status) represents the classic example of all that must be avoided in the future: 1) the secretive assembly and sharing by government and industry of information about massive resource development proposals with virtually no information disseminated to the public - to the press, local residents, the labour movement, public interest groups, or the taxpayers of Ontario;

2) the indifference to and ignorance of the concerns, interests, and rights of the native people, and the arrogant flat refusal to consult in any fashion at any stage with the native people;

3) the parallel exclusion of the communities to be affected from the decision-making processes;

4) the patronizing attempt to purchase the support of the communities and labour by the creation of a few jobs of uncertain duration and quality;

5) the absence of any concern for long-term planning, the examination of alternative proposals, and any attempt to reduce the expected disruption of existing social and community life in the North;

6) the continued donations by government to multinational corporations of tax concessions, grants, and open-ended contracts;

7) the pitiful lack of any serious prior environmental assessment or concern;

8) the continued blind assumption that the prime beneficiaries of resource development will and should not be northerners but those in the South.

It is perhaps somewhat unnecessary to say that employment is a key concern of the labour movement, and that employment is tied to economic expansion and development. However, unionists in the North have learned and are presently being reminded of hard lessons from the boom and bust cycles of the past, the company towns which can die as quickly as they were once set up, the pollution, the waste of raw products, the lack of health, education and transportation facilities, the lack of jobs for women, the relocation and dislocation which occurs when a company is closed. These kinds of effects, Mr. Justice Hartt are not just economic - they wreak havoc on the personal and family lives of inhabitants of the North. The lack of stability is oppressive.

Why has this kind of "development", which we would prefer to call exploitation, been allowed to continue? We would venture two major reasons: because it is profitable for the industries involved who merely extract the resources for processing elsewhere, and who have needed to show little responsibility to the well-being of the people employed in the process, the municipality, native communities, the resources themselves and the environment; secondly, because the decisions that have been made, were made by governments outside of the North, and industries, the majority of which are American or foreign owned, who know little and care less about the North. Surely the disaster of the lay-offs at Inco and Falconbridge in Sudbury clearly demonstrates this syndrome.

For these reasons we feel it is of critical importance to recognize the need for a solid base of secondary

industry in the North. The profits and products of primary industry should be reinvested in secondary industry, generating new jobs. In this way the natural riches of the North would become a lever for economic progress and growth in the North.

We urge your Commission to investigate in depth what resources are extracted in the North, who extracts them, for whom, and why? Who is involved in the decision-making processes? What is the relationship between the industries and government? Where are the statistics coming from? What kind of development policies will bring stability to the North?

We noted previously the hardships of northern existence, the relocation and disruption resulting from boom and bust cycles, the marital and social problems resulting from isolation and lack of basic facilities. Such is the lot of the non-native northerner.

In similar fashion, the lives of native people have been treated disdainfully - they have been uprooted from their traditional nomadic life in keeping with their hunting, fishing and trapping existence and have been placed on reserves. Their belief in custodianship of the land has been sorely abused, and their land has been flooded, forested and mined without any consultation. They do not have the right to elect a local and regional government to respond to their needs, which is supposedly the basic right of all citizens. This lack of local control, and control over their own lives binds together the native and non-native, particularly in the North, but also in the South. It becomes increasingly clear to us that working people and native people have common grievances.

The labour movement supports the right of native people to self-determination, self-sufficiency. We admire their spirit, their love for their land, and their respect for the environment. We feel we have much to learn from them, if it is not already too late.

We wish finally to emphasize that the labour movement adamantly refuses to be conned by the industry argument of the need for trade-offs between environmental control and jobs. We have learned to our detriment, that the usual outcome of such argument is both pollution and unemployment. We no longer intend to be so naive, and are becoming increasingly convinced that pollution control methods in themselves can generate employment and that alternative methods of resource and energy development must be intensively researched and examined. We believe that there are energy systems and technologies which respect the environment and are in keeping with the maintenance and development of the livelihood and lifestyle of native people. We particularly recommend that wind and solar power systems for the North be extensively studied by your Commission.

With respect to how your inquiry might be conducted, we have the following suggestions:

1. In order for your Commission to make a complete and thorough analysis of northern development and the environment it is important that you investigate the many development schemes presently being planned, such as the Polar Gas pipeline, the Reed Paper project, Onakawana Lignite Mine, water diversion schemes, and mineral exploration projects. It is also critical that resource

development which has occurred in the past both north and south of 50 be investigated to learn from the results of these ventures.

2. We urge you to give full consideration to the demands of the native people throughout your inquiry, and strongly recommend that you travel to each native community to see how they live and work, and to enable them to speak openly to you in their own environment, through their own languages. Only in this way will we finally be communicating with the native people on an equal basis. It is of similar importance that the native groups appearing at the formal hearings be accorded the time, funding and research documentation needed to ensure their full and equal participation. Such presentations will be a massive task for organizations only beginning to cope with a complex legal and technical bureaucracy, which to those of us bred in the system is still frightening, if not often incomprehensible.

3. We wish to commend you for announcing the fact of preliminary hearings in the South, although the time limitations were somewhat stringent. We would strongly recommend community hearings as well in the South, as has also been recommended by native groups. Certainly the mistake of having decisions made in the South which affect the North, should not simply be reversed. And the economic and environmental concerns are of province-wide scope. The taxpayers of both North and South have had their tax dollars already invested in the preliminary phases of the development schemes mentioned earlier, and they have a right to a say on the impact of these schemes.

4. We urge you to encourage and promote the active participation of the public - not merely "interested parties". A party, already interested, needs little encouragement, but there are many groups, organizations and individuals, particularly in the South who still know little if anything about your Commission. Information on the inquiry, the issues, funding criteria, and summaries of the hearings and evidence obtained, should be widely available across the province. We suggest that all forms of the media be used for this purpose. It is our contention that this Commission can serve as an invaluable educational tool for the public of Ontario on aspects of the North never before discussed, presented, or analyzed in open debate.

Mr. Justice Hartt, you have been presented with a formidable task, which we urge you to pursue fairly, openly, and thoroughly. We expect that our hopes for a planned development policy, so long awaited, will be one fruitful result of this unique opportunity to break with the past system of private planning for private interests and move into an era of public planning in the public interest.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

Clifford G. Pilkey, President Terry Meagher, Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents

Rene Brixhe	Norman Paxton
Hugh Buchanan	William Punnett
Charles (Bud) Clark	Art Riseley
F.S. Cooke	Ted Roscoe
Jack Donnelly	Eleanor Ryan
Al Hershkovitz	Pat Sagriff
Glenn Pattinson	Gord Wilson

December 12/77

opeiu:343

CARON

Z1

-77N22

Government
Publications

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

ROBERTA KEEVIC

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

ROBERTA KEESEC

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

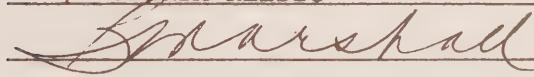
MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

EXHIBIT # 259

RETIYPED FOR PRINTING

CERTIFIED
TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL

by ROBERTA KEESEC



ORIGINAL SUBMISSION
CAN BE VIEWED AT THE
COMMISSION OFFICES AT
55 BLOOR STREET WEST,
TORONTO

S U B M I S S I O N

presented to

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE
NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

FROM

ROBERTA KEESIC

S U B M I S S I O N

presented to

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE
NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

FROM

ROBERTA KEEVIC

MY NAME IS ROBERTA KEE Sick.

I COME FROM GRASSY NARROWS RESERVE.

I AM A SENIOR IN A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL HERE IN KENORA.

I AM AN INDIAN,

I AM YOUNG,

I AM GOOD.

WHEN I SAY GOOD, I DON'T MEAN A PERSON ON TOP OF EVERYONE, OR
A PERSON TOO GOOD FOR ANYONE, BUT A PERSON WHO FEELS CONFIDENT
SHE'S DONE WELL AND DESERVES THAT CLASSIFICATION.

BUT I AM TIRED.

I AM TIRED OF BEING PUT DOWN.

I AM TIRED FOR NOT BEING RECOGNIZED AS A GOOD PERSON.

I AM TIRED OF ASKING AND BEING REFUSED.

I AM TIRED OF BEING MISUSED.

I AM TIRED OF BEING TREATED LIKE I'M DUMB.

I AM SO TIRED THAT I CAN NO LONGER WITHHOLD MY VOICE AND ALLOW
THE WORLD TO TIRE ME INTO LOSING MY SELF-RESPECT.

BECAUSE I AM A PROUD INDIAN.

I CAN THINK, BUT I DO IT IN SILENCE.

I CAN SPEAK, BUT ONLY WHEN IT IS NECESSARY, AS NOW.

AND I CAN FEEL.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE COME WITH HOPE, THAT WHAT I AM ABOUT TO READ
WILL SERVE WELL IN EXPLAINING HOW THE INDIAN IS MADE TO FEEL.
ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE BEING VICTIMIZED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF
THE ONLY WAY OF LIFE THEY HAVE KNOWN.

IN THIS POEM I ATTEMPT THIS TASK OF REVEALING THE COLD REALITY OF
WHAT IS FELT BY MY PEOPLE.

I HOPE AS I READ THIS POEM, YOU WON'T JUST HEAR THE WORDS, BUT
FEEL THEM ALSO.

IT IS TITLED "SNOWFLAKES";

SNOWFLAKES

I LOOKED INTO THE DISTANCE THROUGH THE SNOWFLAKES
AND ASKED GOD OF ALL IT TAKES
ABOUT HIS THING ABOUT GIVING
OF MAKING MY PEOPLE FEEL WORTHWHILE LIVING
AND ABOUT GRANTING ME A STANDING
TO BE ABLE TO GIVE MY PEOPLE MY UNDERSTANDING
AND ABOUT GIVING THEM PURPOSE
AND A SOLID SURFACE
TO GIVE THEM SUPPORT
IN WHICH TO DO THEIR EXPORT
OF THE COUNTLESS TROUBLES AND PROBLEMS

WHICH HAVE SERVED AS EMBLEMS
AND SHAMEFUL SYMBOLS
OF MY PEOPLE AND THEIR PEOPLES.

I LOOKED INTO THE DISTANCE THROUGH THE SNOWFLAKES
AND SEARCHED HARD AMIDST THE DECEIVING FLAKES
FOR THE SIGHT OF GOD'S LIGHT
OF WHICH WOULD ENLIGHTEN
MY PEOPLE'S FLOODED EYES
WHICH LIES

MARKED BY MOANS EXHALED FROM THEIR PAINFUL MOODS
OF THE NUMEROUS LOADS
OF TROUBLES AND PROBLEMS
WHICH NEED NOT SERVE AS EMBLEMS
OF MY WORTHY PEOPLE

WHO ONLY MEAN TO LIVE LIFE SIMPLE.

AGAIN I LOOKED INTO THE DISTANCE THROUGH THE SNOWFLAKES
AND ASKED GOD OF ALL IT TAKES
ABOUT HIS THING ABOUT LIVING
OF MAKING MY PEOPLE FEEL WORTHWHILE LIVING
I OFFERED TO GO
BEFORE MY TIRED PEOPLE
AND DELIVER HIS MOST WANTED CONSENT
OF WHICH HE HAS NOT SENT.

STILL I LOOK ON INTO THE DISTANCE THROUGH THE SNOWFLAKES
AND ASK GOD OF ALL IT TAKES
ABOUT HIS THING ABOUT GIVING
OF MAKING MY PEOPLE FEEL WORTHWHILE LIVING
MY PEOPLE HAVE OFFERED TO WAIT
FOR THEY KNOW SOMEDAY HE WILL SEND HIS WORD
TO MAKE MY PEOPLE FEEL WORTHWHILE LIVING
AND TO SHOW HIS THING ABOUT GIVING.

OUR TREES HAVE BEEN TAKEN
OUR WATERS HAVE BEEN MADE INTO POISON
OUR ANIMALS HAVE BEEN MADE TO TURN THEIR BACK ON US
WE HAVE BEEN LEFT WITH NOTHING
THE WHITEMAN IS TIRED OF US
THEY HURT AND THEY ABUSE US
THEY CRITICIZE OUR FAILURES TO SUCCEED IN THIER KINDS OF PROFES-
SIONS.

ALL THIS HAS LEFT US TO FEEL UNWORTHY.

I AM SURE THERE ARE THOSE WHO DO NOT REALIZE THAT THERE ARE STIL INDIANS WHO LACK SKILL AND EDUCATION TO COMPETE IN THE WHITEMAN'S KINDS OF PROFESSIONS.

YOU SEE INDIANS FEEL FOR ANYTHING THAT IS HUMAN. WE CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR FRIEND, THE WHITEMAN.

WE DO NOT ASK FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT.

WE ONLY ASK THAT OUR FEELINGS BE CONSIDERED BEFORE DETERMINING THE DEVELOPEMENT OR THE FATE OF MY HOME, THE NORTH.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING.

CAZON

ZI

77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH
ASSOCIATION
Ontario Division
8 Pailton Crescent
Toronto, Ontario
M4S 2H8

PRESENTED AT

Kenora

on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

No. 260

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

This exhibit is produced by

Can. Mental Health Assoc.
this 12 day of Jan 1978
[Signature]

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
ONTARIO DIVISION

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF
MAJOR INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES IN
ONTARIO NORTH OF 50° PARALLEL

A Paper Submitted To

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE E. P. HARTT

COMMISSIONER

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

NOVEMBER 1977

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mental Health/Ontario would like to take this opportunity to thank the Commission for its interest and financial support in making this submission possible.

We sincerely hope this attempt to highlight mental health issues and concerns integral to northern development will contribute to the proceedings.

Finally, we wish the Inquiry every success in its endeavours and we remain firmly committed to assisting the Commission in every possible way.

Mental Health/Ontario

As a Division of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Mental Health/Ontario is a voluntary non-profit organization operated by mental health professionals and lay people. Operating through a network of local community branches, the organization is committed to the promotion of good mental health by means of local planning, participation and control of primary prevention and service delivery systems. Relying on community-based volunteers, the major thrust of Division activity surrounds the concepts of service and advocacy. Service delivery entails the researching, planning, implementing and evaluating of treatment and rehabilitation programs. Advocacy, in its broadest sense, involves the encouragement of lifestyles that will maximize mental health and the construction of social systems and service patterns that will minimize interference with individual lifestyles.

At present, the Division has appointed two Northern Development Co-ordinators to assist local mental health groups in assessing community resources and needs as the preliminary stage in the development of a wide range of service/prevention models. The development of systems appropriate to the north will be a slow, careful process, a building of trust and expertise, focusing on the major goal of community-based operation and control of service delivery.

SUMMARY

This submission was developed over a period of one month in collaboration with Mental Health/Ontario personnel from a series of interviews, selected readings and a short impressionistic tour of the north. It is not based upon direct personal experience but rather on the assimilation of the experiences of others. It is not a comprehensive research paper but rather the first impressions of an organization slowly gaining expertise in the north.

This report is designed to highlight some of the general issues surrounding northern development from a mental health perspective. The major focus of the paper is on the importance of the human factor in the economic development equation and the psycho-social effects of major industrial expansion. The submission briefly traces the effects of previous northern developments leading to a discussion of possible directions for future change and development. The final section makes some suggestions regarding the form of the Inquiry. The conclusions and recommendations outlined below are intended to provide the Commission with a useful perspective and orientation to its investigation into the social, economic and cultural conditions that influence the well-being of our northern communities.

Conclusions and General Principles

1. Any investigation into the environmental impact of northern development must fully consider the psycho-social implications of that development. The psycho-ecology is of equal importance to the bio-ecology.
2. Externally-controlled, rapid, exploitive development imposed on existing communities and cultures, leads to the destruction of the social fabric of the culture and severe psychological distress. These conditions are greatly aggravated in northern communities where white, technological culture clashes with native traditional culture, and the existing support systems are inadequate to cope with the resulting emotional distress.

Economic development, if it is to avoid these destructive results, must:

- (a) safeguard the integrity of traditional cultures and value systems;
- (b) proceed on such a scale and at such a pace that it can be absorbed without traumatic effect by existing populations;
- (c) allow room for local initiative and participation;
- (d) leave local people free to control their own environment and determine their own lifestyles.

3. Meaningful involvement of native people in the social, economic and cultural development of Northern Ontario will depend on the extent to which they are supported in their demands for

...continued

Conclusions and General Principles

3. Continued

appropriate economic and educational development programs, including industrial and life skills training, and for re-orientation of economic planning priorities to allow for small-scale, locally planned and controlled enterprises.

4. Rapid industrial expansion often brings about unnatural, incomplete "communities" without adequate social and support systems for its individual members. In the future with regard to town planning, emphasis must be placed on building "health" into new northern communities. Further to this, the goals of northern health-care delivery systems should be community-based operation and control and should promote mental health on both the community and individual level.
5. The North is an integral part of Canadian society. Solutions to northern problems are inextricably tied to southern policies. In the interplay of economic forces between the two regions, the rights of northern residents to determine their own development must be respected.
6. Genuine resolution of the problems of the North may well have to reside in a complete rethinking of our concepts of growth, progress, culture and economics.

Recommendations

1. That in the light of the above principles, the Commission seek answers to the following fundamental questions:
 - (a) should there, in fact, be any further expansion of southern-controlled industrial development in the area under study?
 - (b) if so, on what scale and at what pace and under what conditions should it proceed in order to avoid destructive psycho-social impact on local populations?
 - (c) what should be done to ameliorate the adverse psycho-social effects of existing major enterprises in the area? What should be the nature of the compensation to populations already bearing the brunt of negative aspects of development? Who should bear the responsibility for this compensation?
 - (d) what steps should be taken to encourage indigenous forms of economic development reflective of local initiative under local control, and in harmony with the local socio-cultural environment?
2. That the Commission visit informally as many northern communities as possible to discuss with individuals in their own milieu and at their convenience, the issues as they see them. Formal hearings should only represent one aspect of the Inquiry and such hearings are inadequate for the emergence and comprehension of the human factor in this investigation. Care must be taken in many cases to limit the size and composition of the hearings/meetings to allow for free access to people's thoughts and concerns and feelings.

"Intrusion of large-scale frontier development among native peoples leads to the aggravation of the cluster of pathologies that are so familiar in the North: Welfare, crime, violence, disease, alcoholism and social and personal disarray. This is a hard fact to accept, requiring as it does a reconsideration of conventional wisdom, but it is founded on the evidence before the Inquiry, indeed on all our experience."

(Berger, World Congress on Mental Health, 1977)

The mandate of the Royal Commission on the Northern Environment, as described in the Order-in-Council, assigns to it three tasks:

- to determine the effects on the environment of major enterprises north of the 50th parallel;
- to investigate the feasibility of alternative uses of natural resources;
- to suggest ways and means of assessing and deciding on environmental aspects of major enterprises.

The meaning of "environment" is broadly defined to include "not only the natural environment, but also the social, economic and cultural conditions that influence man and the life of man or a community".

The concept of "environment" embraces physical, social, political, economic, cultural and psychological components. Each and every issue surrounding the impact of industrial expansion on the northern life-scape will also contain these elements. Any investigation of environment must therefore treat these issues as an inseparable, inter-related complex.

In the words of the Nishnawbe-Aski Declaration, "The People and the Land are One". (CASNP Bulletin)

The importance of the human factor in the economic development equation cannot be overemphasized. Mental health issues can never be separated from their environmental context, because they arise out of human interaction with the environment. In the search for politically and economically expedient solutions to the problems of northern development, there is a clear and present danger that the human factor will not be fully explored, understood and valued.

This preliminary paper will address itself to this danger, by focusing on the human variables within the concept of environment and the implications of adjustment to change.

The outcome, positive or negative, of previous northern development has been recorded, and there is little evidence to suggest that improved planning skills will allow those responsible for future development to significantly alter the social impact of tomorrow's large scale intrusive economic expansion on the northern environment.

(Berger, Lysyk)

There already exist good predictors of what will result from uncontrolled accelerated growth. If, in some instances, the predictions of social problems cannot be exactly quantified, there still remains no doubt that social costs will be the burden of the local community and its individual inhabitants.

The devastating effects of industry on many native communities combined with the problems of extensive physical relocation and loss of traditional livelihood, have led to social disorganization and general disintegration of community and family life for many native people.

For many native people in Northern Ontario, and in the harsh words of Andrew Rickard,

"To the Treaty #9 Cree and Ojibway, 110 years of your confederation have meant 110 years of our disintegration. While you celebrated, we felt anger, frustration, regret and tolerance."

For native people, the social costs have been and continue to be enormous.

The Northern Environment: Cultural Erosion

Extensive research into previous industrial expansion in the north always leads to a reiteration of the same major issues. Time and time again, there is the picture of a century of exploitation of the environment and its permanent residents; both native and white. The massive cyclical intrusion of boom and bust development results in the total disintegration of previously workable lifestyles. In particular, the native who is forced to make greater changes in attempting to adapt to new imposed structures, pays a heavy price for the "benefits of progress".

White technology is seen as increasingly inappropriate to native culture. The resultant conflict between the two cultures, as the native is forced to adopt more of the roles and ways of the white society, leads to a gradual disintegration of old belief systems. J. Patrick Kehoe, in his submission to the Berger Inquiry, succinctly outlined this cultural conflict and its attendant results:

"....evidence of cultural breakdown... a high incidence of disordered behaviour... among the Native People...a population with limited access to highly valued, achieved roles, whether White or traditional; where people are given roles that are incompatible with their traditional values; where there is a discontinuity between the old ways and the new; where the traditional roles (e.g. hunter, trapper, shaman) are devalued or discredited entirely; and where the old standards by which self esteem was regulated are increasingly identified as irrelevant." (p. 11)

This loss of identity and diffusion of roles leads to ineffective coping strategies and the entire range of social problems endemic to the north.

The issues surrounding cultural erosion are also relevant to southern white society today. Dr. J. D. Atcheson, a psychiatric consultant, commented on this matter in his submission to the Berger Inquiry.

"Since the breakdown in living that I have described and which I identify with the phenomena of cultural erosion presents patterns of behaviour such as aggression, delinquency, family breakdown, etc., that are increasing in our southern culture, it is obvious that we have not discovered suitable techniques to prevent totally this deviant social behaviour." (p. 7)

The Northern Community: Industrial Expansion

Development in the north (and note that it is rarely considered development of the north except in government policy papers) has been massive, externally imposed and intrusive. It is a type of neo-colonialism based not on the search for land or cheap labour but rather a search for resources, which can be exploited and removed. These developments are high wage, capital-intensive, frontier modes of economy. They are dependent upon highly rationalized economies of scale with distinct ideological components including rugged individualism and encouragement to mobility of labour. (Brody)

The general effects of industrial expansion on northern communities are well summarized in the reports of the two recent pipeline inquiries. These reports delineate the impact of rapid growth on the north in a concrete yet human manner. Lysyk, in his Alaska Highway Pipeline Inquiry report, notes that in-migration from large developments has invariably placed strain on existing facilities.

"The failure to implement planned programs, or to continue the search for new responses to difficult social problems, the elimination of (as yet) unproved new programs, and the reduction in quality of existing facilities and services will have serious consequences that cannot be quantified."

"Negative impacts...will fall most heavily on the long time Yukon resident...the ones who feel the effects of stinting long term programs in favour of crisis management."

(p. 94)

The inescapable conclusion is that municipal services; water, sewage, housing, etc.; health and social services; and recreation and shopping facilities; are incapable of changing to meet the simultaneous demands of rapid population growth and evolving patterns of use.

Berger, in his report on the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, links industrial development with massive government intervention and a lack of employment opportunities. In-migration of skilled labourers increasingly shifts the balance of power, lessening native residents' influence and causing lack of pride, initiative, and independence. Because they have not participated in the planning and implementing of economic enterprises, the industrialization is perceived as even more externally imposed and inappropriate.

Wage earning, when available, is often a culturally meaningless task committing the native to a white life without necessarily contributing to the emergence of a fuller native way of life, and the short term nature of most employment in the north leaves the native continually dependent on government make-work and welfare programs.

Successful involvement of native people in industrial expansion will depend on how fully they are supported in their demands for appropriate human development programs including industrial and life skills training, and for re-orientation of economic planning priorities to allow for small-scale, locally planned and controlled initiatives.

The Northern Individual: A Catalogue of Progress

Specific manifestations of social problems in the north are readily apparent and are similar to problems found in our southern culture with two important differences. The first difference is the virulent destructiveness with which social problems beset the north. They exist in epidemic proportions in a culturally unprepared area, without natural (institutional) defences and immunities (belief systems and coping mechanisms) and without remedies (adequate treatment facilities) capable of coping with this vast array of causally inter-related emotional distress problems.

The second difference is that the people of the north, native or white, rarely benefit socially or economically from industrialization to the degree the south does. A good example of this second aspect is the community of Red Lake. A local frustrated resident commented on the millions of dollars worth of gold shipped 'south'. The mine is not a big producer now and the town is faced with an eroding tax base and a collapsing arena; no work and no play. This situation is typical of many northern communities that cannot even raise the money to qualify for Wintario grants. Once again northern residents, left to bear the social costs of development, see the long term benefits of expansion slip south.

The typical boom and bust development creates consumer expectations that are never met. The in-migrant often lives in work camps without access to recreation facilities and social companionship. If married, the decision to make a major purchase, to buy a house or car, is always complicated by the possibility of lay-off or transfer.

For native people, promises of steady work and training rarely develop. Those who are willing to give up traditional occupations for a chance to make some "real money" find themselves trapped between two cultures. Neither the white nor the native can be satisfied with this type of development. The pattern of northern "progress" creates forced choice situations, leading to a general collapse of traditional lifestyles and belief systems. Northern residents find their individual coping and adjustment mechanisms overtaxed by this rapid and exotic forced acculturation. Many find it impossible to adjust.

Brett, in his article on mental health care in the western Arctic, describes non-native mental health problems as follows:

"The psychiatric casualties suffered by the northern whites do not appear to produce specific syndromes peculiar to the north. However, alcoholism, organic brain syndromes and personality disorders are much more prevalent. In addition, the syndrome of depression ... does occur with increased frequency... 'cabin fever'."

He characterizes native mental health disorders by their:

"....high incidence of alcoholism, depressive states and behavioural problems....a suicide rate more than twice the national average."

In linking these problems to cultural conflict inherent in large-scale industrial expansion in the north he also notes that one serious consequence of cultural erosion is the loss of traditional control by the community over the behaviour of its members. This loss of control bears a direct relationship to the increase in social problems (e.g. crime) suffered by northern communities.

Lysyk, in a section devoted to health and welfare, concludes that industrial expansion brings a rise in venereal disease and increases in emotional distress; admissions to mental health clinics; divorce; suicide, family breakdown; child abuse; alcoholism; and runaways. Mention is also made of the positive correlation between alcohol abuse and crime and the strong indications of a positive correlation between increased economic activity and crime.

Schaeffer, in his study of the Inuit, found the highest venereal disease rates in the world and concluded that venereal disease, alcoholism and violence are closely inter-related and a function of -

"....these quite obvious 'social diseases' such as breakdown of family order, and other cultural restraints, loss of the individual's functional role and economic usefulness and consequent loss of self-esteem and identity, and a build up of feelings of frustration, loneliness and hostility." (p. 291)

This pattern of manifest social problems emerges everywhere there has been a massive southern influx into the north. Again and again the relationship between rapid, large-scale, externally imposed and intrusive change and the concomitant cultural erosion is evident.

Industrial development is often responsible for pulling people together into unnatural communities. Moosonee, for example, a railhead community and the base for movement throughout the James Bay area, is populated by several different native groups. As a result, there is no integral band structure. Extended kinship lines are broken, and the combination of the usual pressures of adjustment to white civilization plus the mix of native groups, status and non-status, Catholic and Protestant,

creates extensive fragmentation of inter-family relationships, inter-group tension and conflicts in expectations. The results are overwhelming feelings of inadequacy and failure, with no work and no future, and increasing rates of crime, suicide and alcohol abuse. This forced acculturation causes specific mental health problems, creating emotional distress, while destroying the very "coping" mechanisms needed to combat the distress.

Alcohol abuse is also linked regularly with northern development. One northern alcohol counsellor commented that the search for non-existent jobs leads to failure and disappointment and a reliance on welfare, in turn producing a loss of self-respect and dignity and alcohol abuse. This chain of events demonstrates that alcohol abuse, often emphasized as the major problem in the north for both natives and whites, is a manifestation rather than a primary cause of social disintegration.

Extensive government involvement in all aspects of life is also cited as an undesirable side effect of industrial expansion in the north. A local band leader emphasized the frustrations for native people in dealing with government red tape and a colonial mentality that sees welfare as a solution to Indian poverty. Welfare means the native must accept his dependency on the white man, seriously affecting traditional family and kinship relationships.

Corroborating the evidence of this increasing dependency, a northern health worker noted that the traditional livelihoods such as trapping, fishing, hunting, are being wiped out by incompatible industrial enterprises and there exist few jobs for the native people to replace this loss of income. The jobs that are available are all white-controlled and/or of the short term government, make-work

variety. In either case, they are not likely to provide skilled training that might create some measure of continuity and self-respect.

Another problem is in the health care field. Raised consumer expectations for health services and increasing reinforcement and dependence on present facilities will inevitably create situations where services are inadequate. Facilities for many health problems are inadequate now, and increased demands can only exacerbate this situation.

A northern medical practitioner expressed concern over inadequate service delivery systems and the large increase in alcohol-associated violent deaths. Dental health appears to be the worst in the surveyed world and there is an alarming increase in ear and eye disease. These concrete physical manifestations of health problems in the north are relatively easy to detect. Their causes may often lie in diet and nutritional changes. What are more difficult to identify are the concomitant social effects, the simultaneous cultural changes, that represent the underlying causes of many of these growing health problems. The process of cultural erosion is difficult to trace and quantify but there is a direct relationship between an individual's health and his mental health.

What emerges from this cursory investigation into the conditions of the north is a staggering picture of social problems of epidemic proportions. Mental Health/North West Territories, in their submission to the Berger Inquiry, viewed the negatives of industrial expansion as,

"....a severe housing shortage, inflation, alcohol abuse, dislocation of people, escalation of social problems, racial tension, industrial accidents and short term transportation, service and supply problems."

Traditionally these manifestations of the underlying problems of cultural conflict and erosion are dealt with only through service and treatment programs. It is obvious, however, that the magnitude of the problems, as outlined above and documented in the relevant literature through such projects as *While People Sleep* and the preliminary report of the Addiction Research Foundation on *Alcohol Problems in Northwestern Ontario*, and the special nature of the problem, as documented in such books as *Grassy Narrows* would suggest that this type of band-aid approach could, at best, be a holding action. The costs to provide adequate service over time must become astronomical, as Lysyk noted in his comments on the relationship between crisis management and long term programs of social change.

The relationship between cultural erosion and industrial expansion can be traced through a general breakdown in belief systems to a myriad of personal coping crises. These inter-related crises, interacting within the societal context of two conflicting cultures, will gradually develop into a loss of social control leading to the rise of visible, quantifiable manifestations of "social diseases". These issues, so closely examined by Berger and Lysyk, describe a disintegrating culture, the frontier culture of Canada.

From the mental health perspective solutions to the endemic social problems of the north will necessitate a complete reworking of traditional treatment and rehabilitation services. The concept of primary prevention, relying on social action and direct intervention in community structures, provides the model from which local communities can develop a workable infrastructure of service delivery and long term social change. The guiding principles for change must be regulated, planned growth and community involvement and control of services.

Future Choice: The Economy

If real progress is seen as expanding options in lifestyles, then the pace of acculturation must be slowed, to humanize it and allow for self-generated social change. Meaningful involvement is a necessary prerequisite to achieving social identity and the reduction of emotional distress. To provide for this necessary slower pace, Lysyk proposes the creation of an -

"....economic framework that will allow (indigenous) people a choice among various possibilities of a mixed economy, and to protect rather than repress their various needs, aspirations and lifestyles." (p. 92)

In its recent report on northern development the Science Council of Canada also discusses "...a strategy of mixed development...".

"The most significant aspects of this strategy are a greater emphasis on local projects and the implementation of major projects only when they are demonstrably benign, socially and environmentally." (p. 13)

"....development implies that change or growth (is)associated with opportunities for greater local self-determination." (p.32)

The successful creation of a mixed economy will partly depend upon research into small scale industrial development suitable to the north. Investigations into methods

of local control, resource management and long term resource harvesting will increase the choice in alternative modes of expansion. Increased choice offers people more power over the daily decisions affecting their lives and is a necessary step in the gradual resolution of social problems.

Future Choice: Mental Health

There are indications that services available in the north today are not adequate for the early detection, treatment and rehabilitation of most psycho-social casualties. There is a need for service delivery systems which can offer a spectrum of mental health services over an enormously diverse and dispersed district population. Mental health services to Treaty and Non-Treaty Indians are presently grossly inadequate, and the jurisdictional overlaps existing between the Federal and Provincial health services in the north compound the problem. A commitment by health service deliverers is needed to examine "mental health" and its attendant "white" connotations in terms relevant to native culture and existent social problems.

In any event, the social and psycho-social problems must be tackled where they exist. How best to provide primary, secondary and tertiary preventative services to diverse cultures and populations in isolated regions is a question we feel can only be answered within a "community mental health" framework. "Mental Illness" is a community label for behaviour unacceptable to the major sector of that community. Therefore, to provide continuity and cohesiveness of service, identification, treatment and rehabilitation programs must operate within that community, either native or white, in order to prove effective.

It is local people, traditions, resources, authority and planning that are essential to effective service and prevention programs.

Addressing the concept of community involvement and control of service delivery, Stymeist, in his review of the Sioux Lookout Zone health care services, comments: -

"....certain problems in the delivery of health care to the people of the Sioux Lookout Zone are rooted, not in the traditional culture of those people, but in the structure and organization of Euro-Canadian medical delivery systems."

(p. 274)

He recommends that the first stage in the transition to indigenous medical services for native persons should be the training of native health workers to provide emergency aid and promote medical health in their local communities in appropriate ways. This shift to indigenous systems will be very gradual, and is already in progress in many parts of Canada including the Sioux Lookout Zone of Northern Ontario. Stymeist concludes that the health of Canadian Indians is not a subject that exists apart from the context of their political and economic subjugation. Mental health issues are never separate from their environmental context, and therefore the resolution of these problems resides in a re-orientation of our current socio-economic planning approaches.

Future mental health services in Northern Ontario will depend on research done to evaluate present service programs and develop alternatives where the services are inadequate. Action-centred research, designed to

simultaneously gather data and stimulate change, is recommended as a useful research model to assist northern communities in developing strategies for change. An example of such a project is a program developed to train native community alcohol workers. These workers, living within native communities, collect data on the nature and extent of the problems while simultaneously developing service and treatment programs and strategies for prevention.

Research and analysis of mental health needs is presently underway as well, in several northwestern communities, through local mental health groups working to asses services and resources, identify high risk groups and major emotional distress factors prevalent in their communities; and further to this, to develop appropriate treatments and models of service delivery.

While social research of this nature is important to the success of prevention and service programs, it is only one aspect of a larger environment that shapes the lives of individuals and communities.

The emphasis on "healthy whole communities", the gradual shift to indigenous health services, and the search for primary prevention programs, are important parts of an integrated planning approach designed to ameliorate the impact of progress on traditional northern cultures.

The major issue, however, remains one of "how" and "what". The interplay of economic conditions and social problems leads to the inescapable conclusion that new solutions must be found to the problems inherent in northern development and southern industrial expansion. Experience to date indicates that indiscriminate economic development invariably leads to severe psycho-social casualties and is ultimately dehumanizing. Genuine resolution of these

problems may well have to reside in a complete rethinking of our concepts of growth, progress, culture and economics.

We feel that the need for humanly-scaled, locally planned, initiated and controlled growth is well documented and pressing, and we welcome the appointment of the Commission and its mandate to consider these alternative modes of expansion.

Recommendations:

As a guiding principle, the Inquiry must prove adaptable to the individual needs of participants in order to provide the "free" access necessary to the success of the Commission. The questions and choices facing the north are seen, and to some degree quite rightly, as the problems of the southern white man, who has the power of the majority and the technology of control. In essence, the Inquiry itself, if seen as the south sitting in judgment on northern input, is a prime example of this Canadian "fact". The Inquiry must address itself to this preconceived notion of another southern "expert" coming to view the problems of "the North" and then returning home again with essentially nothing accomplished.

To this end, we offer the following recommendations:

1. that formal hearings should only represent one aspect of the Inquiry, since such hearings are inadequate for the emergence and comprehension of the human factor in this investigation into economic development. In many cases, it will be essential to limit the size and composition of the hearings/meetings. Informal, spontaneous meetings with local residents, which take place at convenient times and locations will often be most appropriate, productive and enlightening. Informal discussions will allow special concerns to surface: women's issues, health care, the interests of children, the problems of senior citizens, the complex changing relationship between white and native cultures. Informal meetings, with a minimum of the trappings and officialdom of government bureaucracy, and scheduled to fit local timetables, will provide local residents with a real opportunity to discuss the issues as they see them.

Recommendations: (continued)

2. that, in the light of the concerns, plans and dreams that the Commission uncovers, it begin to seek answers to the following fundamental questions:
 - (a) should there, in fact, be any further expansion of southern controlled industrial development in the area under study?
 - (b) if so, on what scale and at what pace and under what conditions should it proceed in order to avoid destructive psycho-social impact on local populations?
 - (c) what should be done to ameliorate the adverse psycho-social effects of existing major enterprises in the area? What should be the nature of the compensation to populations already bearing the brunt of the negative aspects of development? Who should bear the responsibility for this compensation?
 - (d) what steps should be taken to encourage indigenous forms of economic development reflective of local initiatives, under local control and in harmony with the local socio-cultural environment?

We wish the Commission every success in its investigation of these very profound issues on behalf of the people of Ontario.



REFERENCES

ABBOTT, A.P., M.D. - Evidence submitted to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry on behalf of COPE, 1976.

ADAMS, Howard - *Prison of Grass: Canada from the Native Point of View*. Toronto, General Publishing, 1975.

ATCHESON, Dr. J. D. - Evidence submitted to the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry on behalf of COPE, 1976.

BENNETT, Cliff - *Ojibway Consciousness* in *Journal of Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies*, Vol. 9, No. 10, December, 1966.

BERGER, Justice Thomas R. - *Northern Frontier, Northern Homeland: The Report of the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry*, Volume 1, Ottawa, Supply and Services Canada, 1977.

BERGER, Justice Thomas R. - Speech to the World Congress on Mental Health, Vancouver, August, 1977, quoted in the *Vancouver Province*, August 26, 1977.

BRADLEY, Penny - Community Development Co-ordinator, Zone 1, Ontario Metis and Non-Status Indian Association. Interview, October, 1977.

BRETT, Brian, M.D. - "Mental Health Care for Children of the Western Arctic", in *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, Volume 62, September/October 1971.

BRODY, Hugh - "Industrial Impact" (Panel One). Evidence submitted to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry on behalf of COPE, 1976.

BRODY, Hugh - "Overview Evidence" (Panel Two). Evidence submitted to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry on behalf of COPE, 1976.

BROWN, Joe - Researcher, Kenora and Rainy River District Health Council. Interview, October, 1977.

BRUYERE, Louis (Smokey) - President, Ontario Metis and Non-Status Indian Association. Interview, October, 1977.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION IN SUPPORT OF NATIVE PEOPLES - "For Generations Yet Unborn: Ontario Resources North of 50", *C.A.S.N.P. Bulletin*, Vol. 18, No. 2, 1977.

CLAYTON, John K., M.D. - *To Ensure the Best Possible Care...To Protect and Promote Mental Health*. Submission to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, 1976.

REFERENCES (continued)

DESIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT: *Northwestern Ontario Initiatives and Achievements*. Toronto, Ontario Ministry of Northern Affairs and Treasurer of Ontario, 1977.

FIDDLER, Dario - Associate Editor, *Wawatay News*, Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Interview, October 1977.

GARDNER, Philip - Chief of Eagle Lake, Treaty #3. Interview, October, 1977.

GIESBRECHT, Norman and Joe BROWN - *Alcohol Problems in Northern Ontario, Preliminary Report: Consumption Patterns, and Public Order and Public Health Problems, Summary*. Toronto, Addiction Research Foundation, 1977.

GOLDTHORPE, Gary, M.D. - Sioux Lookout Zone Director, Medical Services Branch, Health and Welfare Canada. Interview, October, 1977.

HUTCHISON, George and Dick WALLACE - *Grassy Narrows*. Toronto, Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1977.

JOLLY, Stan - Co-ordinator, Ontario Native Council on Justice. Interview, October, 1977.

KEHOE, J. Patrick - *Some Mental Health Implications of Large Scale Northern Development*. Submission to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, September, 1976.

LAZORE, Glen - *Native People and Mining*. MR 171. Ottawa, Energy, Mines, and Resources Canada, 1977.

LYSYK, Kenneth M., Edith E. BOHMER, and William L. PEHLPS, *Alaska Highway Pipeline Inquiry*. Ottawa, Supply and Services, Canada, 1977.

MCKENZIE, Ian - Travelling Worker, Sioux Lookout Zone, Medical Services Branch, Health and Welfare Canada. Interview, October, 1977.

MENTAL HEALTH/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - Submission to the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, 1976.

PREST, Donna - Assistant Director, Red Lake Friendship Centre. Interview, October, 1977.

ROBERTSON, Heather - *Reservations Are For Indians*. Toronto, James Lewis & Samuel, 1970.

SCHAEFFER, O., M.D. - "Socio-Cultural Change and Health in Canadian Inuit", in *The Patterns of "Amerindian" Identity*, Quebec, Les Presses de l'Universite Laval, 1976.

REFERENCES (continued)

SCIENCE COUNCIL OF CANADA - *Northward Looking*. Report #26. Ottawa, 1977.

STYMEIST, David - "Indian Health in the North", in *The Patterns of "Amerindian" Identity*, Quebec, Les Presses de l'Universite Laval, 1976.

SYLVESTER, Joe - Director, Addiction Counselling Service, Native Canadian Centre of Toronto. Interview, October, 1977.

VINCETT, John - Indian Community Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation. Interview, October, 1977.

WASACASE, Colin - Native Education Liaison Co-ordinator, Grand Council, Treaty #3. Interview, October, 1977.

WHILE PEOPLE SLEEP: *Sudden Deaths in Kenora Area*. Kenora, Grand Council Treaty #3, 1973.

WOOLNER, Florence - Associate Editor, *Wawatay News*, Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Interview, October, 1977.

CAZON

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT
BY

KENORA - KEEWATIN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTBY

KENORA-KEEWATIN MINISTERIAL
ASSOCIATION
Box 522
Keewatin, Ontario

PRESENTED AT

KENORA
ON
January 17, 1978

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

This exhibit is produced by

Kenora Ministerial Assoc.

I READ FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH:

this 17 day of June 1978

FOR THIS IS WHAT THE LORD HAS SAID:
THE EARTH DROOPS AND WITHERS,
THE WORLD WILTS AND WITHERS,
THE HIGH HEAVENS WILT WITH THE EARTH
THE EARTH IS POLLUTED THROUGH THE TOUCH OF ITS INHABITANTS:
BECAUSE THEY HAVE FLOUTED LAWS, VIOLATED STATUTES
AND BROKEN THE ETERNAL COVENANT.
THEREFORE THE EARTH IS UNDER A CURSE,
AND ITS PEOPLE ARE PAYING THE PRICE.

(ISAIAH 24:2b-6a)

MR. JUSTICE HARTT, MEMBERS OF THIS INQUIRY, FRIENDS. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO HEAR AND CONSIDER OUR BRIEF. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT IT WILL BE OF SOME VALUE IN GIVING GUIDANCE FOR THE FUTURE HEARINGS AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS AT ITS CONCLUSION.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR INQUIRY OPENED, MR. JUSTICE HARTT, IN SIOUX LOOKOUT NOVEMBER 7TH WITH PRAYERS AND THE RELIGIOUS PEACE PIPE CEREMONY. WE, MEMBERS OF THE KENORA-KEEWATIN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO ECHO THESE SAME SENTIMENTS, THE SAME SPIRITUAL CALL WITH WHICH IT OPENED.

WE OF THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION ARE THE PASTORS AND PRIESTS WHO ARE SERVING THE PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC CHURCHES AND PARISHES OF THIS COMMUNITY. WE LIVE AND SERVE AN AREA THAT IS KNOWN ACROSS CANADA, AND EVEN BEYOND OUR BORDERS BECAUSE OF SOME OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE SURFACED HERE. TO SAY THAT THIS SITUATION HAS BEEN EXAGGERATED OR DISTORTED BY THE MEDIA WOULD PROBABLY BE TRUE. TO SAY THAT SOME VERY SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES ARE HAPPENING HERE, AND ON A SCALE WHICH IS OUT OF PROPORTION COMPARED TO OTHER COMMUNITIES

OF SIMILAR SIZE IN ONTARIO WOULD ALSO BE TRUE. WE WOULD SPEAK OF SOME OF THESE AS THEY AFFECT US AND THE PEOPLE WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE. FOR WE BELIEVE THAT THE PAST AND PRESENT MODES OF "DEVELOPMENT" MUST BE PERMITTED TO SPEAK AND BE HEARD AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE.

IT IS THEN OF CONCERN TO US THAT THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT, THE METHOD OF DEVELOPMENT, OR THE WAY THAT SO-CALLED DEVELOPMENT HAS TAKEN PLACE UP TO NOW THROUGHOUT ONTARIO, AND INDEED, THROUGHOUT THE WORLD HAS PRODUCED SUCH SIDE EFFECTS AS:

1. THAT NONE OF US, REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE LIVE, CAN BE SURE THAT THE WATER WE DRINK IS NOT CONTAMINATED WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS, OR PCB'S, OR DDT, OR MERCURY, OR ASBESTOS FIBRES, OR ARSENIC, OR A COMBINATION OF THESE AND OTHER POISONS NOT MENTIONED. IN FACT, IT IS "ASSUMED" AND "ACCEPTED" BY ALL BUT THE MOST NAIVE THAT ALL OUR WATERS ARE SO POLLUTED. OUR WATERS HAVE BECOME THE CESSPOOL OF OUR SIN AGAINST OUR CREATOR, HIS WORLD, OUR NEIGHBOUR AND OURSELF.
2. WE CAN NOT BE SURE THAT THE FISH AND OTHER FOOD THAT IS GATHERED FROM THE WATERS IS NOT POISONED AND UNFIT TO EAT. IN FACT THE ONLY QUESTION SEEMS TO BE OF THE DEGREE THAT IT IS POISONED, AND, IS THE POISON WITHIN THE "SAFE" LIMITS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION? AND, IF NOT SAFE FOR US ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF ONTARIO, IS IT SAFE ENOUGH TO SEND ELSEWHERE WHERE THEIR STANDARDS ARE NOT AS HIGH AS OURS? SO WE CAN STILL MAKE OUR PROFIT. WE, CLERGY, FIND THIS MORALLY CULPABLE.
3. WHAT WE HAVE SAID ABOUT THE WATER IS EQUALLY TRUE OF THE AIR WE BREATHE. POISONED. AND INCREASINGLY SO.
4. AND THE RESULTS OF SUCH POLLUTION-POISONING ARE REVEALED IN MANY WAYS. WE CHOOSE TO MENTION ONLY ONE: WE ARE NOW WARNED THAT THE BREAST MILK OF THE MOTHER MAY BE UNFIT FOR THE BABY - THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE WOMB IS UNABLE TO DRINK FROM THE BREAST IN COMPLETE TRUST. TO OUR MIND, THIS IS THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF OUR SIN-SICKNESS. WE COULD GO ON AND ON.

IT IS AS IF THE ANCIENT PROPHESY OF ISAIAH WERE COMING TRUE TODAY. "THE EARTH IS POLLUTED THROUGH THE TOUCH OF ITS INHABITANTS, AND ITS PEOPLE ARE PAYING THE PRICE - BECAUSE WE HAVE FLOUTED LAWS, VIOLATED STATUTES, AND BROKEN THE ETERNAL COVENANT."

AND WHAT IS ALARMING TO OUR MIND IS THAT THOSE WHO POLLUTE, AND THOSE IN OUR GOVERNMENT WHOSE JOB IT IS TO MONITOR AND POLICE THE CORPORATIONS, BOTH SEEM INTENT ON TRYING TO COVER UP AND WARD OFF LAWSUITS RATHER THAN OPENLY ADMITTING THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM AND CLEANING UP THE DAMAGE. THIS, WE BELIEVE, IS INEXCUSABLE - ESPECIALLY ON THE PART OF OUR GOVERNMENT. AND, EVEN WHEN, ON THAT RARE OCCASION, THE POLLUTER IS TAKEN TO COURT, FOUND GUILTY ON SEVERAL COUNTS, AND FINED, THE FINE IS SO RIDICULOUSLY LOW, OFTEN LOWER, FOR INSTANCE, THAN THAT FINE USUALLY CHARGED TO SOMEONE WHO HAS TAKEN TOO MANY FISH WHEN ANGLING.

TO OUR MIND, MR. JUSTICE HARTT, THERE IS NO COMPARISON TO THE CRIME OF POISONING OUR AIR AND WATERS AND ALL THE LIFE CONTAINED THEREIN, AND THAT OF ROBBING OF A FEW FISH FROM THE LAKE OR STREAM.

BUT ALTHOUGH IT MAY SEEM TO SOME OF US THAT ISAIAH IS SPEAKING OF OUR TIME, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS NEITHER THE TIME NOR THE PLACE TO ENGAGE IN THEOLOGICAL SPECULATION, HOWEVER IMPORTANT THAT MIGHT SEEM TO US AS CLERGY. THAT DOES HAVE ITS TIME, AND PLACE, AND IMPORTANCE.

BUT AT THIS TIME WE FEEL THAT THERE ARE SITUATIONS THAT ARISE IN LIFE THAT PERMIT NO DELAY FOR REFLECTION, BUT RATHER CRY OUT FOR ACTION. THIS IS THE CASE, WE BELIEVE, WHEN THERE IS A DIRECT MENACE TO PERSONS, TO THEIR LIFE AND DIGNITY. WHEN WE CAN BE OF HELP TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WE MUST ACT, AND ACT BOLDLY. NOW IS THAT HOUR. THIS IS THE PLACE.

IT IS WELL FOR US TO BEGIN BY SAYING THAT WE OF THE CHURCH FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE NOT WITHOUT GUILT. INDEED WE HAVE BEEN AND ARE PART OF OUR SOCIETY AND PART OF THE PROBLEM OR PROBLEMS HERE. WE ARE THEREFORE ALSO SPEAKING TO "US" HERE AT THIS TIME.

AND TO BELIEVE THAT WE OF THE CHURCH HAVE "THE ANSWER" FROM ON HIGH WHICH WE WILL DELIVER HERE AND NOW - IN, SAY, THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES, AND THEN ALL WE NEED TO DO IS TO FOLLOW WHERE WE HAVE POINTED THE WAY - THAT IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. WE RATHER FEEL THAT WE HAVE SOME INSIGHT, SOME TRUTH THAT WOULD BE ADDED TO THE TRUTHS PRESENTED BY OTHERS SO THAT THE OUTCOME FOR ALL OF US WOULD BE ENHANCED.

MR. JUSTICE HARTT. IN ADDITION TO THE ALMOST DAILY MOUNTING OF THE POLLUTION MENTIONED ABOVE, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT, IN OUR COMMUNITY HERE, THERE IS A LARGE SEGMENT THAT IS NOT ENJOYING MANY OF THE COMFORTS OF LIFE THAT MOST OF US TAKE FOR GRANTED. A JOB, SELF-ESTEEM, ACCEPTANCE OF SELF AND BY THE LARGER COMMUNITY. RESULTING IN A LOST MEANING AND PURPOSE OF LIFE AND AN ALMOST TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF A ONCE PROUD NATION.

THE EVIDENCE FOR THIS, AND THE RESULTS OF THE LACK OF SUCH BASIC HUMAN NEEDS IS SHOWN REPEATEDLY IN STATISTICAL REPORTS AND NEWSCASTS THAT COME FROM OUR COMMUNITY. THE RECENT REPORT OF THE ADDICTION RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO (1977) SUMMARIZED THIS AS WELL AS ANY. "THE KENORA DISTRICT WAS FOUND TO HAVE THE HIGHEST PER CAPITA ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION, THE HIGHEST RATE OF ARRESTS AND VIOLATIONS FOR LIQUOR OFFENCES, THE HIGHEST RATE OF ALCOHOL DIAGNOSED HOSPITAL DISCHARGES, AND THE HIGHEST RATE OF DEATHS DUE TO ACCIDENTS, POISONINGS, AND VIOLENCE. BETWEEN 1971 AND 1974, 24 PER CENT OF THE DEATHS IN THE DISTRICT WERE DUE TO ACCIDENTAL OR VIOLENT CAUSES, COMPARED TO 9 PER CENT FOR THE PROVINCE AS A WHOLE." AND THE TREND IS WORSENING DRASTICALLY. IN 1969, THE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION OF THE KENORA DISTRICT WAS 16 PER CENT ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL AVERAGE. 5 YEARS LATER, IN 1974 IT WAS FOUND TO BE 34 PER CENT ABOVE THE PROVINCIAL AVERAGE!

IT WAS IN THAT YEAR, MR. JUSTICE HARTT, ON JUNE 1, 1974, THAT OUR THEN MAYOR, MR. JIM DAVIDSON, PRESENTED A BRIEF TO THE ONTARIO CABINET COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. THAT COMMITTEE WAS COMPOSED OF SUCH MEMBERS AS THE HONOURABLE MARGARET BIRCH, THE HONOURABLE RENE BRUNELLE, THE HONOURABLE JAMES AULD, THE HONOURABLE THOMAS WELLS, AND THE HONOURABLE DENNIS TIMBRELL.

OUR MAYOR ASKED SOME QUESTIONS OF THAT HONOURABLE GROUP, THREE AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO - QUESTIONS TO WHICH WE ARE STILL AWAITING A REPLY. LET US REFRESH OUR MEMORIES A BIT AS TO WHAT HE SAID: "WHY" HE ASKED, "WHY DO HUMANS OF ANY RACE OR CONDITION IN LIFE IN THIS WEALTHY PROVINCE OF ONTARIO EAT FROM GARBAGE CANS? WHAT CONDITIONS OF LIFE REDUCE INDIVIDUALS TO SEEK OBLIVION IN THE CHEAP FORTIFIED WINES THAT ARE SOLD BY THE ONTARIO LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD IN GREAT QUANTITIES FROM THE MAIN STREET OUTLET IN KENORA? 7,000 PICKUPS FOR DRUNKENESS BY THE LOCAL POLICE FORCE IN ONE YEAR. ASSORTED ACTS OF VIOLENCE TO THEMSELVES AND OTHERS: FIRES OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN IN DESERTED BUILDINGS: UNNATURAL DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE, FIRE, RAIL AND CAR ACCIDENTS, DROWNINGS, SUICIDES AND MURDER."

AND HE WENT ON. "THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWN OF KENORA IS UNABLE, ALONE TO CHANGE THE SOCIAL CONDITIONS THAT CAUSE THIS TRAGIC HUMAN CONDITION. STOP-GAP TREATMENT OF SYMPTOMS, REMOVAL OF THE EVIDENCE OF DEPRAVITY, BAND-AID APPLICATIONS OF MONEY TO ONE SOCIAL AGENCY OR ANOTHER, MULTIPLICATION OF AGENCIES, THESE ARE NOT WHAT WE ARE SEEKING. WORK, NOT WELFARE, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL CITIZENS OF ONTARIO, OF WHATEVER RACE, TO LIVE IN PEACE AND DIGNITY. AN OVERALL ATTACK ON THE TOTAL PROBLEM, TO SEEK THE REAL CAUSE, CO-ORDINATION OF THE EFFORTS OF ALL SOCIAL AGENCIES, EMPLOYMENT OF THE BEST BRAINS OF THE PROVINCE TO DIAGNOSE AND PRESCRIBE FOR THIS GROWING DISEASE OF OUR SOCIETY WHOSE SYMPTOMS I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED, ALL THESE ARE NEEDED. THE DEVELOPING WORLD IS NOT IN AFRICA, OR SOUTH AMERICA, OR EURASIA, BUT IN ONTARIO, ON OUR OWN DOORSTEP."

MR. JUSTICE HARTT. WE CAN ONLY ECHO THESE WORDS OF THE FORMER MAYOR. WE STAND BY THEM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE HONOURABLE GROUP THAT HEARD OUR MAYOR WERE "SHOCKED" AND "SAT IN STUNNED SILENCE" AS THIS EVIDENCE WAS BROUGHT HOME TO THEM.

BUT THESE QUESTIONS WERE PUT TO THAT AUDIENCE THREE AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO, MR JUSTICE HARTT. AND, WE ARE SURE, NOT ONLY THEN, BUT HUNDREDS OF TIMES IN VARIOUS BRIEFS AND SUBMISSIONS BEFORE THAT TIME AND AFTER - BY THIS COMMUNITY. AND WE STILL SEE NO EVIDENCE THAT HIS MESSAGE IS BEING GIVEN THE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION THAT IS DESERVED. EVEN THOUGH WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF HIS PRESENTATION THE EVENTS OF ANISHINABE PARK PUNCTUATED THE REMARKS OF OUR MAYOR.

IT IS EVIDENT TO US THAT THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE UP TO NOW HAS NOT BEEN GOOD ENOUGH. IT IS DESTROYING GOD'S CREATION, ALL OF IT, INCLUDING PEOPLE.

AS LEADERS OF THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY HERE, WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN NO LONGER REMAIN SILENT, BUT MUST RAISE OUR VOICE OF ALARM. WE SIMPLY CANNOT CONTINUE TO BREAK LAWS OF GOD WHICH HAVE EXISTED FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD WITHOUT PAYING THE FULL PRICE FOR DOING SO.

WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THE WISDOM AND THE NECESSITY OF CORPORATIONS TO LAY PLANS WHICH THEY FEEL WILL MEET THEIR NEEDS 10 AND 20 YEARS IN THE FUTURE. WE ASK FOR A SIMILAR 10 YEAR PLAN WHICH WILL MEET THE HUMAN AND SOCIAL STRESS WHICH IS TEARING AT THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR COMMUNITY, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATION'S NEEDS WITHOUT DUE REGARD AND RESPECT FOR THE WIDER SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

SPECIFICALLY WE RE-AFFIRM WHAT MR. DAVIDSON SPELLED OUT SO VIVIDLY -- THAT THERE ARE NO SHORT-CUTS THAT WE CAN TAKE OUT OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. A DOCTOR WHO WOULD PRESCRIBE A BAND-AID WHEN THE PATIENT IS SUFFERING FROM CANCER WOULD BE SUED FOR MAL-PRACTICE. TO SEEK THE REAL CAUSE GOES EVEN DEEPER THAN SURGERY, FOR OUR CANCER HAS ITS CAUSE WHICH MUST BE UNMASKED, ROOTED OUT, AND DEALT WITH.

EVERY SEGMENT OF THIS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY (BY THIS WE MEAN THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ALL OF THEM, GETTING TOGETHER AND WORKING TOGETHER: CIVIC AND LABOUR GROUPS: BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY: THE CHURCH: SERVICE CLUBS: THE POLICE: ALL PEOPLE, INDIAN AND WHITE -- OR WHATEVER -- ORDINARY CITIZENS) WE MUST ASSUME OUR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDITION WE FIND OURSELVES IN AND PLEDGE OURSELVES, COMMIT OURSELVES TO WORK TOWARD GOALS WHICH WE WILL SET AND MEET TO BRING A MORE PROMISING FUTURE FOR OURSELVES AND OUR CHILDREN. AND WE OF THE KENORA-KEEWATIN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION ARE READY TO ASSUME OUR SHARE OF LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS REGARD.

CLEARLY THIS POISONING OF AIR AND WATER CANNOT CONTINUE. OUR GOVERNMENTS MUST ENFORCE MORE STRINGENT MEASURES TO CLEAN UP EXISTING POLLUTERS AND POLLUTION AND HAVE LAWS WITH TEETH ENOUGH TO SEE THAT IT DOES NOT HAPPEN OVER AND OVER AGAIN IN THE FUTURE. IF THIS REQUIRES THAT CORPORATION HEADS BE TAKEN TO COURT AND CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER, AS IS PRESENTLY THE CASE IN JAPAN, IF THIS MEANS THAT ALL OF US HAVE A LESS AFFLUENT LIFE STYLE, SO BE IT. IT IS THE PRICE WE MUST PAY, PERHAPS, TO LIVE WITHIN GOD'S ECONOMY. CERTAINLY THIS WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO THE PRESENT COURSE WE ARE TAKING WHICH CLEARLY IS LEADING US ALL TO SICKNESS AND DEATH BY THESE SAME EFFLUENT POISONS.

THANK YOU.

CA20N

Z1

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

BEARSKIN LAKE AIR SERVICE LTD.
BIG TROUT LAKE, ONTARIO

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO
ON
JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT
BY

BEARSKIN LAKE AIR SERVICE LTD.
BIG TROUT LAKE, ONT.

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

EXHIBIT # 262

RETIPIED FOR PRINTING

CERTIFIED
TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL

BY

BEARSKIN LAKE AIR SERVICE LTD.

Bdarskell

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION
CAN BE VIEWED AT THE
COMMISSION OFFICES AT
55 BLOOR STREET WEST,
TORONTO

S U B M I S S I O N

presented to

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE

NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

from

BEARSKIN LAKE AIR SERVICE LTD.

BIG TROUT LAKE, ONT.

BEARSKIN LAKE AIR SERVICE LTD.

BIG TROUT LAKE, ONT.

POV 1G0

Aviation Safety in the North
Presented to the Royal Commission

A lot has been said and written about aviation safety in the north. I am not here to tell you that the air carriers of Northern Ontario are innocent of all misdemeanours, but to inform the public and The Royal Commission about some of the difficulties of operating a safe dependable year around service in the sparsely settled areas,

Five years ago when I was first checked out in a ski plane up in Big Trout Lake with Henri Boulanger, and experienced pilot of 8,000 hrs. bush flying, landed the Cessna 180 on the ice. I thought, "this is not a landing, its a controlled crash". This is all in a days work for the Northern bush planes, but when the public hear of one of these planes breaking a ski, they think it is just another one of those reckless bush pilot accidents.

A bush pilot meets all kinds of challenging conditions, rough ice, white outs, big waves in summer, shallow lakes with rocks, poor docks at some villages that damage expensive floats, poor weather and no air radio to advise him of weather ahead, muddy runways, heavy cross winds on runways because there is only one runway at each airport, etc. I have not heard too many complaints from pilots until recently when the public and the M.O.T. have started coming down hard on us with no thought for what we are putting up with in order to supply a dependable year around service.

If you look at a radio nav aid map of Canada you see a big black hole in Northern Ontario. Down south of Sioux Lookout there are lots of Beacons, VOR's, ILS, radar service, air radios and paved runways, but up north where we have no roads and must depend on air travel we have very little. This has improved over the last three years, but not nearly fast enough. As M.T.C. has built runways the air carriers have more than kept pace by going from Norseman's and Beech 18's to Twin Otters, Aztec's and

Navajo's, but the powers that be, have logged far behind in providing the necessary nav aids all weather flight.

We lived in the north, Big Trout Lake, for five years and can remember when we had no long distance telephones and no all weather aircraft. I can remember cases when the nurses called us up and asked us to do a madivac to take a sick person or expecting mother to the hospital. One case there freezing rain and low ceilings and visibility and we had to say "sorry the weather is below the capability of our aircraft." Now we have the all weather aircraft (twin aircraft with instruments, de ice equipment, etc.) and we sometimes have to say, "sorry the weather is below capability of the nav aids available, or sorry if we go we will be violated for flying out of or onto a strip with no lights.

How the bush pilots I know have learned to cope with airstrips with no lights, nav aids that are few and far between and few weather stations. There are bush pilots in the north who can fly a ski plane well after dark and in poor weather, find a small village in the middle of black no wheres land safely and take a sick person to a hospital or nursing station, thereby saving that person's life. These pilot's do it all in a days work and have been doing it for years. Many a nothern Indian person owes his or her life to some "reckless drunk bush pilot" as the newspaper have it, who could do such a trip. These pilots are not reckless daredevils but skilled Aviation men who have learned with special training and experience, to cope with the primitive conditions up north.

Maintenance is extremely important to the safe operations of aircraft, especially when those aircraft are operating under rough conditions. But good maintenance is hard to do especially in winter when engineers must work in 30 below weather, 12 hours a day. It is hard to find men hardy enough to do this kind of work. Building a hangar is the natural solution but the red tape involved in getting airport land sometimes can take years. The cost of aircraft parts is high and availability quite often is not very good. Rebuilt aircraft engines are very expensive and sometimes not the quality expected. Take for example the DC-3 engine which cost \$17,000.00 to overhaul and yet quite often will

"blow a jug" with only 100 or 200 hours on the engine. This maintenance which must not be compromised costs the airline dearly. Yet the Northern Ontario Air Services are keeping their airplanes in the air year around, providing a necessary and valuable service without government help or direct government subsidy. This is free enterprise supplying a service to our area and tax dollars to our country's coffers.

I would like to despell a myth about aircraft insurance. Aircraft insurance is expensive and when an operation has a mishap usually the insurance claim takes a long time to be settled. The aircraft is sent to "the cheapest and not necessarily the best shop for repair", the down time cost the operation money and public relations. If there is any loop hole at all, the insurance company will not pay the claim. On top of all this your premiums quite often get raised.

So the myth that operation willingly and cold heartedly allow aircraft to be operated dangerously, in hopes of writing the aircraft off and collecting the insurance is completely and definately unfounded.

There is room for improvements of the quality of air services available in Northern Ontario, and this improvement will be speeded up when the powers that be, install more nav aids, improve our muddy runways and cut down on the excessive red tape and paper work and get down to the heart of the matter of aircraft safety.

Sincerely,

Karl Frisen
Vice-President

CAZON

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA WOMEN'S COALITION

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA WOMEN'S COALITION
KENORA, ONTARIO

PRESENTED AT

KENORA

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

Mr. Justice Hartt, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"Women, what have they got to say to a Commission on Northern Development?" That seemed to be the standard question when people learned that the Kenora Women's Coalition intended to present its views to the Hartt Commission. Actually, it's a question that succinctly states our concerns. Let us rephrase it. What do women have to say about the communities in which they live? Well, up until now, not much!

Traditionally economic development in northern single industry and resource based communities has not included the experience, knowledge, concerns and interests of women. This has resulted in male oriented communities at all levels, economically, socially and politically. The needs of women and children have been given only marginal recognition.

We acknowledge, of course, that the experience, knowledge, interests and concerns of women vary considerably, but we all share a common desire to care for our families and to obtain some degree of personal fulfillment by utilizing our individual skills in the community.

Because our experience, knowledge, interests and concerns vary, so do our perceptions and expectations. Basically, there are two kinds of people in the North. Those who are born here and those who move here.

Those of us born here are accustomed to the conditions - we value our environment, independence, self-reliance and pace of life while recognizing mutual dependency in times of emergency.

... 2

No. 263

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment
This exhibit is produced by
Kenora Women's Coalition
this 17 day of Jan 1978
A. J. Adams

To newcomers the harsh and brutal weather conditions can be debilitating; inadequate housing or crowded trailer parks demoralizing; the absence of medical services close at hand frightening; and recreational and educational facilities, virtually non-existent for women, depressing. Soon cabin fever, confusion about the so-called frontier mentality, isolation and loneliness replace the romantic expectations of "living up north." Those of us born here have perhaps fewer illusions - we understand that we either do something or we don't. We have never really questioned the vast distances which separate us from not only services, entertainment, etc.; but also from each other. We recognize, however, that as the North develops and changes that our expectations will also change.

The Kenora Women's Coalition want to be part of that change as it occurs. Women want to be equal participants in all phases of the development process. We must become involved in the planning, governing and evaluating of the social, political and economic implications inherent in the development of the North. In order for us to participate effectively we need a mechanism by which we can attain a position of economic awareness and confidence in our abilities.

There are some very real barriers to women's involvement especially in the areas of transportation and communications, education and research.

Understanding that the climatic and geographical conditions of the North severely interfere with communications and transportation in and between northern communities; and that women's economic and work status is frequently such that our lives remain centred around our homes and our families, we feel that women require the establishment of effective communication and transportation networks to allow for information sharing and travel among women in isolated communities. This will increase our opportunities for meeting and sharing concerns and will encourage the development of our political, communication and organizational skills.

In the area of education and research, we Northerners, especially women, require the development of our skills in very specific areas, such as research tools and techniques, data collection , acquisition of technical information and planning, in order to retain or obtain control of our own communities. By developing these skills, we can utilize our experience to temper the nature and size of development so that it will be in keeping with our values and our hopes for the future.

The Kenora Women's Coalition recommends to the Hartt Commission that they appoint, as quickly as possible, two Northern Womens Resource Workers. We recommend strongly that one of the Workers be available to work specifically with the needs and concerns of native women, and, therefore, speak Ojibway fluently. We recommend that an office be established in the Northwest to actively promote the participation of women at all levels of decision making. This office would serve as a central information station to gather and make available information and statistics which relate to or affect women of Northwestern Ontario, and be staffed by a receptionist. The Northern Womens Resource Workers would be available to visit all of the Northern communities within a defined area on a regular basis to assist women in a developmental way, to take a more assertive role in planning activity. The Womens Resource Workers would organize and assist women with regional workshops in such areas as leadership training, environmental impact of industrial development, town-site planning, health and social service planning, and more.

A more detailed proposed job description and budget are appended for your consideration. With the establishment of the Northern Womens Resource Centre, the mechanism will be in effect for women of the North to contribute effectively at the final hearings of the Commission. From our experiences

we expect the following are among the concerns that women would like to address.

- (1) Innovative ways of recruiting, retraining and retaining women in the labour force to ensure greater participation in both primary and secondary industry. This will include working to overcome attitudinal barriers, as well as investigating specific areas such as adequate day care facilities for children, training on the job opportunities, apprenticeship programs, suitable work environments and restrictions on transient labour.
- (2) Housing developments should be geared to family living and include such things as play areas for children, recreation facilities for adults, shopping area, etc.
- (3) The need for adequate community and health services for the size and composition of the community with special consideration of the mental and physical well-being of residents of the area, with recognition of the unique physical health needs of women.

We believe that there is a role for women to play in the development of their communities and that the role need not only be the traditional social development role. Our concerns parallel those expressed by women of the North West Territories in a brief presented to the McKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry that stated:

"Looking at development from a woman's point of view is vital. Women are concerned with the human element of development - about what it will do to their children, their homes, and their communities. Women are the ones who end up coping with the results and effects of development decisions usually made by men."

RECOMMENDATIONS

With this in mind, we wish to make the following recommendations:

- (1) That a women's research and action centre be established immediately by the Commission in a central location in North-western Ontario, staffed by two Women's Resource Workers and one receptionist, who would perform the functions outlined earlier, in the body of the report.
- (2) That the Commission should make provisions at their meetings for the reading of letters from people who find this form of expression more convenient or effective for their purposes. Further to this, that these letters become part of the public record of the hearings and available along with copies of oral presentations at a later date for public scrutiny.
- (3) That the composition, frequency, and locations of the Commission's meetings be sensitive to the needs of women in northern communities; that this would necessarily entail the provision of child care services at future meetings within the three year time frame of the Commission.
- (4) That the legal advisors to the Hartt Commission research and make public their recommendations to ensure the following:
 - (a) that a tendering system be created that will allow Northerners to have 1st option on all secondary development - roads, support services, franchises, etc.
 - (b) That legislation be developed that will protect the rights of Northerners to employment opportunities and discourage the tendency to rely on transient labour which has occurred in other large scale developments (i.e. Petrosoc, Bruce Point).

The Kenora Women's Coalition wishes to endorse the Hartt Commission in its inquiry into the impact of development on the northern environment and on the human environment.

We feel that the process which you are putting into place may be of unprecedented value for Northerners and encourage continuation of the Commission for its full three year term.

We all share in the hope that this process will move us closer to a comprehensive rational plan for careful resource development in the future. Because the future very quickly becomes the present, we recommend that Justice Hartt be integrally involved in any review procedures or consultations around new major developments or presently proposed projects which arise during the life of the Inquiry. This, we feel, would be a step towards ensuring that any further industrial development of the North will be positive and consistent with a comprehensive plan for our future.

Thank you.

APPENDIX I

Location - Northwestern Ontario

Staff - 3 - two Women's Resource Workers (one worker to speak Ojibway fluently)
- one receptionist

Tasks:

- 1) to gather and make available information and statistics, etc., which relate to or affect the women of NWO in economic, social, cultural and political areas.
- 2) to visit all the communities on a regular basis to assist women to jointly articulate their concerns and prepare to taking a more assertive role in the development of the North.
- 3) to organize and implement regional workshops, leadership development seminars, etc.
- 4) to serve as a liaison between communities and women's community groups.
- 5) to actively promote the participation of women at all levels of decision making in the total development process, economic, political, town planning, social issues, etc.

APPENDIX II

BUDGET

Position: Northern Womens Resource Office

Budget:

Salaries: 2 Northern Women's Resource Workers

2 x 15000 = \$30,000

1 Receptionist \$ 9,500

Fringe Benefits 10% \$ 3,950

Rent \$150 x 12 \$ 1,800

Phone \$120 x 12 \$ 1,440

Transportation and Accommodation \$12,000

Office Supplies, Equipment Rental

\$200 x 12 \$ 2,400

Seminar/workshops/
regional mtgs/information sheets \$ 6,000

TOTAL \$67,090.

This paper outlines some of the concerns of the following individuals:

Jane Liddell	Whitedog, Ontario.
Jeanne Burnditch	Kenora, Ontario
J. Little	Kenora, Ont.
Sara Wright	Keweenaw, Ont.
Frances West	Kenora, Ont.
Sarah Borofai	Keweenaw, Ont.
Theresa Wilson	Kenora, Ont.
Sharon Johnson	Kenora, Ont.
Debbie Knutson	Keweenaw, Ontario.
Lorna Brown	Keweenaw Ontario
Rosalyn Copenace	Kenora, Ontario
Diane Dickman	Keweenaw, Ont.
Pit Jobb	Gaffray-Melick, Ont
Veronica Macmillan	Keweenaw, Ont.
Valerie Kellberg	Kenora, Ontario
Karen Cunningham	Kenora, Ontario
Melne McGregor	Keweenaw, Ontario
Margie Lussman	Keweenaw Ontario
Nancy Phillips	Kenora, Ont.
Bonnie Berstad	Kenora, Ont.

Maine Smith - Kenora

Therne P. Brueyee - Kenora

Piggy Popenace - Kenora

Mary Ballantyne - Kenora

Hilley Leman - Kenora

Kristin Granger - Kenora

Nancy Telf - Kenora.

Joan MacLennan. Kenora.

Mayjorie Dean - Kenora

Carol Young - Kenora

Sonya Watson - Kenora

Marlene Grandine - Kenora

KENORA WOMEN'S COALITION

PLEASE SIGN IF WILLING TO SUPPORT THE BRIEF.

Judy O'Hanrahan

Cathy Heelsten

Thelma Fair

Marianne Bagley

Sylvia Myles

Janet

Edwyl Smith

CAZON
Z1
-77N22

Government
Publications

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION
KENORA, ONTARIO

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO
ON
JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT
THE HON. MR. JUSTICE E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA DISTRICT CAMPOWNERS ASSOCIATION

KENORA, ONTARIO

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

S U B M I S S I O N

presented to

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE

NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

from

KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION

KENORA, ONTARIO

No. 264

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

This exhibit is produced by

*Kenora District Campowners
Association*

this 17 day of Jan 1978

Sgtarman

A SUBMISSION FROM THE KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION

TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

PRESENTED AT KENORA, ONTARIO ON JANUARY 17, 1978

THE KENORA DISTRICT CAMPOWNER'S ASSOCIATIONS SUBMISSION
TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

KENORA, ONTARIO

JANUARY 17, 1978

ON BEHALF OF THE KENORA DISTRICT CAMPOWNERS ASSOCIATION I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR THE CHANCE TO APPEAR BEFORE THIS COMMISSION TONIGHT.

TOURISM IN GENERAL AND THE OUTFITTING BUSINESS IN PARTICULAR ARE THE MOST MALIGNED AND LEAST UNDERSTOOD INDUSTRIES IN THE NORTH.....YET THEY ARE THE SECOND LARGEST SOURCE OF INCOME IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO, THE LARGEST EMPLOYER OF NATIVE PEOPLE, THE LARGEST EMPLOYER OF FEMALE HELP, THE MARGE EMPLOYER OF STUDENT LABOUR, AND THE LARGEST EMPLOYER OF UN-SKILLED WORKERS IN THE KENORA DISTRICT. IN THIS RESPECT, I THINK THE CAMPOWNER COULD VERY WELL BE COMPARED WITH GOVERN-

MENT.....OFTEN CRITIZED, NEVER UNDERSTOOD, AND VERY RARELY COMPLIMENTED.

THE TOURIST OUTFITTER (CAMP OWNER) IN THE KENORA DISTRICT AS WELL AS ACROSS NORTHERN ONTARIO COULD WELL BE DESCRIBED IN TODAY'S RHETORIC AS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES BECAUSE HE IS A FRONT LINER, A SMALL BUSINESSMAN IN THE NORTH IN A FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM WHICH SEEMS TO BE MORE AND MORE THESE DAYS GOING OUT OF STYLE WITH THE ADVANT OF BIG GOVERNMENT, BIG BUSINESS, AND BIG LABOUR PLUS THE EVER PRESENT LEAN OF SOCIETY

TOWARDS MORE WELFARE AND BIG GOVERNMENT HANDOUTS. INDEED EVEN MORE SO TODAY THEN EVER BEFORE AS WITNESSED BY THESE VERY HEARINGS, SELECTIVE "PRESSURE GROUPS" WITH MASSIVE GOVERNMENT FUNDING (i.e. TAX PAYER DOLLARS) PRESENTING MADISON AVENUE AND HOLLYWOOD STYLE PRESENTATIONS WHICH TO MY WAY OF THINKING ARE NOT WANTED AND NOT NEEDED. WE DO NOT WISH NOR DO WE WANT TO LIVE IN YESTERDAY'S "WAY OF LIFE" SO WHO REALLY ARE WE KIDDING AND WHAT IS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED? I WOULD HOPE VERY LITTLE. THE NORTH HAS BEEN CALLED THE LAST FRONTIER FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SMALL BUSINESSMAN. LET'S NOT ONLY PROTECT THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT, BUT ALSO THE NORTHERN "WAY OF LIFE".

HOW CAN TOURISM AS WE KNOW IT TODAY IN THE KENORA DISTRICT, BOTH ABOVE AND BELOW THE 50th PARALLEL PROSPER AND GROW NOW AND IN THE FUTURE? TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS, I THINK WE MUST FIRST TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MAJOR PROBLEMS AND AREAS OF CONCERN THAT FACE THE OUTFITTING INDUSTRY IN THE NORTH. IN LATER PRESENTATIONS WE WILL NOT ONLY LOOK AT THESE PROBLEMS IN GREATER DETAIL, BUT PRESENT MORE PARTICULAR AND DETAILED INFORMATION.

LENGTH OF SEASON

IN THE TOURIST BUSINESS WE ARE LIMITED TO WHEN WE CAN OPEN AND WHEN WE MUST CLOSE OUR CAMPS BY PHYSICAL FACTORS, SUCH AS "BREAK-UP" IN THE SPRING AND "FREEZE-UP" IN THE FALL. THE FARTHER NORTH YOU GO, THE SHORTER THE SEASON. HOWEVER WE ARE FURTHER SHORTENED BY LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS AND SOME OF THESE RESTRICTIONS WHICH WE CAN NOT CONTROL RESULT IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS BOTH BY THE CAMPOWNER, HIS EMPLOYEES AND THE SUPPLIERS OF TOURIST ORIENTED GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE NORTH. THE SHORTENING OF SEASONS IS ONLY ONE MANAGEMENT TOOL FOR OUR FISH

AND WILDLIFE.....CERTAINLY THE MOST ECONOMICAL FOR GOVERNMENT, BUT ALSO THE MOST COSTLY FOR THE TOURIST INDUSTRY IN NORTHERN ONTARIO. WE SUGGEST THAT ALTERNATIVES SHOULD BE EXPLORED. IN THE LONG RUN, THE TOURIST INDUSTRY, THE PROVINCE, AND THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO WILL BENEFIT.

TRANSPORTATION

THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE WHO VISIT NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO COME BY PRIVATE AUTOMOBILE. THE COST OF GASOLINE IN THIS PART OF THE PROVINCE IS TOO HIGH IN COMPARISON TO SOUTHERN ONTARIO, MANITOBA OR THE UNITED STATES. IT IS DETRIMENTAL TO TOURISM, CAUSING RESENTMENT IN THE ATTITUDES OF THE TOURISTS WHO SIMPLY CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE PRICE IS SO HIGH. THE DISTANCES TRAVELED IN THE NORTH ARE JUST AS GREAT FOR THE TOURIST AS FOR THE RESIDENT. WE HAVE ROOM WITHIN THE PROVINCIAL TAX STRUCTURE TO ALLOW FOR A TAX CONCESSION ON GAS PRICES IN ORDER TO LOWER THE PRICE PAID. THIS IN ITSELF WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE TOURIST INDUSTRY AS WELL AS THE RESIDENTS OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

ADVERSE PUBLICITY

IN GENERAL THE TOURIST INDUSTRY ACROSS NORTHERN ONTARIO, BUT IN PARTICULAR NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO HAS BEEN VICTIMIZED BY NEGATIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS PLUS THE LACK OF A CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM TO COMBAT THIS ADVERSE PUBLICITY. I AM REFERING TO MERCURY, FOREST FIRES, EXCHANGE RATES, BORDER CROSSING PROBLEMS, GAS PRICES, ETC. THESE ARE BAD ENOUGH BY THEMSELVES, BUT WHEN YOU ADD POLITICAL EXPLOITATION BY POLITICIANS DURING ELECTIONS, AN OVER REACTION BY SOME MEDIA, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS BY INDIVIDUALS AND PRESSURE GROUPS: YOU CAN SEVERELY HURT AND DAMAGE THE OVERALL TOURIST PROGRAMS IN

THE NORTH. WE HAVE ALOT TO BE PROUD OF IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

WHY CAN WE NOT HAVE SOME POSITIVE PUBLICITY FOR A CHANGE?

COMMERCIAL VS. SPORTS FISHING

SPORTS FISHING IS THE PRIMARY TOURIST ATTRACTION IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO, SO IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE MAINTAIN GOOD SPORTS FISHING. HOWEVER THIS VALUABLE RESOURCE IS STILL BE COMMERCIALLY FISHED. FOR EXAMPLE: THERE IS A DISPARITY ON LAKE OF THE WOODS IN THAT 50% OF THE ANNUAL HARVEST IS TAKEN BY COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND 50% BY RESIDENTS AND TOURIST ANGLERS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS: THE TOURIST INDUSTRY IS PROVIDING 18 TIMES MORE JOBS (MOSTLY NATIVE AND LOCAL PEOPLE) 64 TIMES MORE REVENUE AND (95 TIMES MORE TAX REVENUE.....YET THE RESOURCE IS DIVIDED EQUALLY. WE SUGGEST THAT ANY LAKE WITH SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING PRESSURE BE CAREFULLY REVIEWED AND WHEN AND WHERE THERE IS A CONFLICT THAT SPORT FISHING SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER COMMERCIAL FISHING.

ACESS ROADS

WE HAVE A UNIQUE ATTRACTION IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO IN THE WILDERNESS HOLIDAY AT AN OUTPOST CAMP OR A FLY-IN RESORT. THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF ACESST ROADS IS A TOP PRIORITY OF OUR REMOTE OUTFITTERS. IT ONLY TAKES ONE ROAD TO AN OUTFITTERS BASE OF OPERATIONS, TO ELIMINATE HIS MAIN ATTRACTION TO HIS GUESTS. A LAKE WITHOUT A ROAD TO IT IS A NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE. A SHORT TERM BENEFIT TO ONE INDUSTRY CAN NOT TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER LONG RANGE OR LONG TERM BENEFITS TO ANOTHER. WITH WISE MANAGEMENT AND LONG RANGE PLANNING OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE NORTH. INDUSTRIES AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN ONTARIO WILL BENEFIT, AND I BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.....

PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER IN HARMONY WITH THE ENVIRONMENT.

AT A RECENT NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST OUTFITTERS CONVENTION IN THUNDER BAY, THE PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO SAID. "AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE, WE REALIZE MORE AND MORE JUST HOW IMPORTANT A ROLE THE NORTH WILL PLAY IN OUR ABILITY TO REMAIN PROSPEROUS AND COMPETITIVE. BUT WE HAVE A SELLING JOB TO DO AND PART OF THAT JOB BEGINS RIGHT HERE AT HOME. I LOOK WITH GREAT HOPE TO THE HARRIET COMMISSION." HE WENT ON TO SAY, "THAT ONTARIO'S FUTURE PROSPERITY WILL DEPEND VERY MUCH ON THE SUCCESS IN THE NORTH." SIR, THE KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION ECHOS THE PREMIER'S STATEMENTS AS WE LOOK WITH GREAT HOPE TO THIS COMMISSION, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INQUIRIES OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS THAT FOLLOW. TOURISM TO DATE HAS HAD A VERY LOW PROFILE IN THE HEARINGS: WE HOPE THAT WILL CHANGE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

TOURISM AND THE OUTFITTING INDUSTRY HAVE BEEN A MAINSTAY IN THE ECONOMY OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO. THIS WAS TRUE IN THE PAST, IT IS TRUE TODAY, AND AS WE LOOK AND PLAN FOR FUTURE OF THE NORTH, WE MUST INCREASINGLY LOOK TO TOURISM. FOR I BELIEVE IN A POSITIVE TOMORROW FOR THE NORTH IF INDIVIDUALS, INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT CAN WORK TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION AND CONSULTATION RATHER THAN ONE OF CONFRONTATION.

THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING THE KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION THIS OPPORTUNITY.

OL 4mde

CAZON

Z1

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

THE CONFEDERATION COLLEGE OF
APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



Ontario 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

THE CONFEDERATION COLLEGE OF
APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
P.O. Box 398
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 4W1

PRESENTED AT

Kenora on

January 17, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5



THE CONFEDERATION COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 398, Thunder Bay, Ontario. (P7C 4W1)

IN REPLY PLEASE J. ITC FILE NO.

January 17th, 1978.

No. 265

Mr. Justice Patrick Hartt,
Royal Commission on the Northern Environment,
Manulife Centre,
55 Bloor St. West, Room 801,
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1A5

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment
This exhibit is produced by
Confederation College
this 17 day of Jan 19 78
Sgtuna

Dear Sir:

The Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology wishes to inform the Royal Commission on the Northern Environment that the College staff and its student body represents a valid cross-section of the citizenry of Northwestern Ontario. This multi-cultural community of the College, we believe, is the type of audience that the Hartt Commission should seek out to facilitate the achievement of its mandate.

The College's current enrollment represents a significant cross-section from the 250,000 citizens of Northwestern Ontario. We believe that the Hartt Commission urgently needs a fully representative "input", particularly from the one age group that is most immediately and significantly affected by the forthcoming recommendations of your inquiry—the 18 to 30 year old citizens of Northwestern Ontario.

Communication and receiving "input" with this representative type of audience and this particular generation is our educational "stock-in-trade". In addition the College's staff and Board of Governors have many years of accumulated experience in finding educational solutions to the unique problems of Northwestern Ontario.

We would invite your Commission to consult with that audience residing in the multi-cultural community of Confederation College to consider areas of dialogue that the Commission wishes to pursue in the pursuit and achievement of its mandate.

Yours truly,

Richard Staples
Richard Staples
for the Board of Governors
Confederation College.



from Wafers"

arch Project sponsored by The Royal Commission on Electric Power Planning

"Waste not: Watt not"

Project Director: Richard Staples

CAZON

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

CANADIAN PAPERWORKERS UNION
C.L.C. - KENORA LOCAL NO. 238

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

Canadian Paperworkers
Union C.L.C.
Kenora Local No.238
Kenora, Ontario

PRESENTED AT

Kenora on

January 17, 1978



Canadian Paperworkers Union CLC

Kenora Local No. 238, Kenora, Ontario

No. 266

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

A BREIF TO THE HART COMMISSION
FROM LOCAL #238 CPU. KENORA. ONT.

This exhibit is produced by

Can. Paperworkers

this 17 day of July 1978

J. A. Grimes

SIRS,

In the view of our membership the present paper mill in Kenora would be put in a very unacceptable position should some of the ideas on future development of the north be implemented.

We feel the Ontario Government has been very lax at looking after our renewable resource,

These resources belong too the people of Ontario and should be looked after and managed to allow us and future generations a clean envirement and a decent job.

A case in point is an cut of province group called the Atikaki Coalition that is trying very hard to put a wilderness park in are area. It is common knowledge that the residents of this area do not want a park taking up our timber land. Should this park go in it would cut off 100,000 cords of wood annually to the kenora mill.

The management of the kenora mill emphatically state it would put the mill in the position of having to close down. Our sister mill in Fort Frances lost a large track of timber to the Quetico park althrcough it was opposed by the area residents ,so we are afraid the uncaring politicans of the south will allow this again.

IT is no secret that O and M would like some wood for future expansion in Kenora therefor we feel the Reed proposal in its entirety is out of the question.



Canadian Paperworkers Union CLC

Kenora Local No. 238, Kenora, Ontario

We feel it is too large scale and would do irreparable damage to the ecology of the north. It would also endanger a very large native populations habitat, livelihood and economic base. The size and methods planned for the Reed area would devastate the land, disrupt self sustaining native villages and put more pollution into an already badly polluted river system. It also threatens the longelivity of the present pulp and paper centres already here. (Dryden, Kenora, Thunder Bay)

We are not against development of the north, however we feel we must not have massive large scale development that does not consider the people in the area concerned nor their cultures and life styles.

We must also urge your commision to strongly recommend that any natural resource industry existing or planned must also show their appreciation of the use of our resources by insuring that in the event of a final closure of any industry, be it mines or paper mills, that they be required to bear full financial burden for relocation of workers. Secondly-if a town site is to be left inhabited that they also bear the municipal costs and education costs until a new industry locates there or until the people that worked there leave.

Many ills facing the pulp and paper industry today can only be traced back to greed. From 1970 to 1975 were the most profitable years in the history of the industry. Profits escalation in some cases doubled and quadrupled in that span. Why wasn't some of the profits kept in those mill towns to modernize and update machinery? We feel that companies like Great Lakes in Thunder Bay, the Oandil in Kenora and Fort Frances and Kimberly Clark in Marathon have done just that. What did a Canadian Co. like Abitibi do at Smooth Rock, Iroquois Falls and Thinder Bay? Not very much I think.

We also recomend that any industry that upon investigation is closing for refusing to comply with polution standards or for allowing their plants to fall behind in production for lack of modernizing their equipment, that the Ontario Government take ~~over~~ them over and secondly to refuse them to open up again in

the miss



Canadian Paperworkers Union CLC

Kenora Local No. 238, Kenora, Ontario

other parts of the country.

Had we been given the Grace that others had prior to the hearings rather than an Oct. 11th decision to allow a hearing in Kenora, we could have sent our full brief. Therefore we will probably be adding ammendments to our brief.

Respectfully,

Sam Moffatt

Rec. Secretary.

CAZON

Z1

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA - KEEWATIN AND
DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

KENORA - KEEWATIN AND
DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL
P.O. Box 388
Kenora, Ontario

PRESENTED AT

Kenora on

January 17, 1978

President

CARL STEPHENS

Secretary

DOUG PELLETIER

Treasurer

LAWRENCE PELLETIER

Oct 26/77

Kenora - Keewatin and District Labour Council

Chartered by Canadian Labour Congress

No. 167

Fourth Wednesday of the Month
in Community Centre

2

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment
Box 388
This exhibit is produced by
Kenora-Keewatin District Labour Council

KENORA-KEEWATIN DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL SUBMISSION TO THE
ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT.

1978
day of Oct 19 78
Signature

THE KENORA KEEWATIN-DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL FEELS IT IS OBLIGATED TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THIS ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE WE FEEL THAT AS ONTARIO RESIDENTS, LANDS IN NORTHERN ONTARIO ARE AS MUCH OUR HERITAGE AS IT IS THOSE WHO RESIDE THERE.

OUR LABOUR COUNCIL PRESENTLY REPRESENTS ELEVEN LABOUR UNIONS IN THIS AREA. OUR PRIMARY INDUSTRY IS THE NEWSPRINT MILL OWNED BY BOISE CASCADE CORPORATION. THE AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT FOR THIS MILL AND WOODLANDS OPERATIONS AS OF 1976 WAS 1,587 PERSONS. STATISTICS SHOW THAT FOR EACH OF THESE JOBS 1.7 MORE JOBS ARE CREATED IN THE AREA. THE AMOUNT OF WOOD NEEDED TO OPERATE THIS MILL IS 246,000 CORDS PER YEAR. PRESENTLY IN ONTARIO THERE ARE 26 MILLS IN OPERATION. BY 1980 IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT NINE MILLION CUNITS OF WOOD WILL BE HARVESTED IN ONTARIO, EACH YEAR. THERE IS A DISTRICT POTENTIAL FOR WOOD SHORTAGE IN THE 1980'S.

THE GOVERNMENT NOW PROPOSES TO GRANT A LICENCE TO REED CORPORATION FOR 19,000 SQUARE MILES OF TIMBER LIMITS, THE LAST REMAINING STAND OF FIRST GROWTH TIMBER IN ONTARIO. WE DO NOT THINK THE GRANTING OF THIS AMOUNT OF TIMBER TO ONE SINGLE CORPORATION MAKES ANY SENSE AT ALL. WE BELIEVE THE PAST PERFORMANCE OF REED PAPER IN OUR AREA LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED. WE DO NOT

Kenora - Keewatin and District Labour Council

Chartered by Canadian Labour Congress

Fourth Wednesday of the Month
in Community Centre



Box 388
KENORA, ONT.

THINK THE ENVIRONMENT WILL WITHSTAND THE MAMMOTH MECHANIZED DEVELOPMENT THIS COMPANY IS PROPOSING. THE ALREADY POLLUTED ENGLISH WABIGOON SYSTEM CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO CARRY THE EFFLUENT FROM ANY NEW PULP COMPLEX.

WE ARE NOT AGAINST DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH. BUT WE DO ADVOCATE A CONTROLLED, PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF THIS VERY FRAGILE LAND. WE DO NOT WANT LARGE COMPANIES GOING INTO THESE LANDS REAPING LARGE PROFITS FOR 20 YEARS OR LESS. AND THEN WHEN ALL IS DEVESTATED, LEAVING WITH THEIR PROFITS AND LEAVING BEHIND THE PEOPLE, WHO HAVE SUNK HALF THEIR LIVES IN THE AREA, WITH NOTHING. GLOWING EXAMPLES OF THIS ARE INCO'S CURTAILMENT OF OPERATIONS AT SUDBURY, UMEX PULLOUT AT PICKLE LAKE, AND CLOSURE OF MADSON AT RED LAKE. PLANNING MUST BE BASED ON EQUITABLE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES. WE MUST DEVELOP IN A WAY THAT STRENGTHENS AND ENHANCES THE ECONOMY OF THE NORTH. WHEN THE NORTH IS READY TO BE DEVELOPED WE MUST INSIST THAT A FULLY DEVELOPED INDUSTRY RESULTS. SECONDARY INDUSTRIES SHOULD BE DEVELOPED, FOR EXAMPLE, MANUFACTURING OF FURNITURE, HOCKEY STICKS, TOBOGGANS, SLEIGHS, SKIS AND WOODEN TOYS. ALL THESE ITEMS COULD BE MADE WITH HARDWOODS. WE MUST INSIST THAT INDUSTRIES ALREADY THERE MUST BE PROTECTED, SUCH AS, TOURISM, TRAPPING, WILD RICE HARVESTING AND OTHERS. LAST YEAR ALONE HALF A MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF FURS CAME OUT OF THAT AREA.

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Kenora - Keewatin and District Labour Council

Chartered by Canadian Labour Congress

Its Fourth Wednesday of the Month
in Community Centre



Box 388
KENORA, ONT.

WE BELIEVE THAT NO NEW NEW MINE MILLS SHOULD BE BUILT IN ONTARIO UNTIL A COMPLETE INVENTORY OF ALL CROWN TIMBER IS TAKEN. WE BELIEVE THAT ANY COMPANIES CLOSING DOWN PLANTS OR MINES IN ONE INDUSTRY TOWNS BE REQUIRED TO RELOCATE WORKERS AND ALSO MAINTAIN PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL TAXES UNTIL NEW INDUSTRY LOCATES IN THAT AREA. WE REQUEST THE COMMISSION TO TOUR THE RESERVES OF GRASSY NARROWS AND WHITEDOG TO SEE FIRST HAND WHAT UNCONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT CAN DO TO A PEOPLE. WE BELIEVE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IRON ORE INDUSTRY BE STOPPED UNLESS THE COMPANY AGREES TO BUILD STEEL MILLS AT MINE SITES. WE BELIEVE THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT GIVING SERIOUS THOUGHT TO IMPLEMENTING REFORESTATION TO SCANDINAVIAN STANDARDS.

IN CONCLUSION WE MUST INSIST THAT THIS AND FUTURE GOVERNMENTS WORK TO CREATE WEALTH FOR THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

THE KENORA-KEEWATIN DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

CAZON

ZI

- 77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

REV. STU HARVEY, MINISTER
ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

PRESENTED AT

KENORA, ONTARIO

ON

JANUARY 17, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

Rev. Stu Harvey, Minister
St. Andrew's United Church
Keewatin, Ontario

PRESENTED AT

Kenora

on

January 17, 1978

Note:

Exhibit 269 is a large photograph
which could not be reproduced for
publication, but can be viewed at
the Commission office at
55 Bloor St. West, Toronto, Ontario.

BRIEF TO JUSTICE HARTT
JANUARY 17, 1978

PRESENTED BY: REV. STU HARVEY, MINISTER OF ST. ANDREW'S UNITED, KEEWATIN, FORMER MINISTER OF ADAM FIDDLER UNITED, SANDY LAKE ONTARIO.

SIR:

MY FEELINGS ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF YOUR INQUIRY OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS, AS THEY PERTAIN TO NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT IN GENERAL, ARE ADEQUATELY EXPRESSED IN THE JOINT BRIEF FROM THE KENORA-KEEWATIN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION TODAY. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, SEVERAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT NORTH OF 50, OF WHICH I HAVE BECOME AWARE IN MY FOUR YEARS IN SANDY LAKE, AND TWO YEARS IN THE KENORA AREA, WHICH WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE IN THE MINISTERIAL BRIEF. I WILL CONFINE MYSELF TO A GENERAL OUTLINE OF THESE ISSUES, AND WILL BE QUITE WILLING TO AMPLIFY THEM IN THE ENSUING MONTHS IF THAT WOULD BE HELPFULL.

THE AREAS I WISH TO COMMENT ON ARE:

1. NEED FOR SECONDARY INDUSTRY
2. LOCAL CONTROL OF SERVICE INDUSTRY
3. INCREASE OF AIRLINE SAFETY IN THE NORTH
4. A DELIBERATE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN TWO CULTURES.

1. THE NEED FOR SECONDARY INDUSTRY: DURING THE FOUR YEARS I WORKED IN SANDY LAKE, I HAD THE PRIVELAGE OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE WEDDINGS OF MANY OF THE YOUNG COUPLES OF THAT VILLAGE AND DEER LAKE. ONE OF THE SAD ASPECTS OF THAT PART OF MY WORK WAS SEEING THE ENSUING TENSION IN SUCH HOMES. ALMOST ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN SANDY WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN WORK IN THE VILLAGE EVEN THOUGH THEY WANTED IT. MANY PEOPLE WOULD LINE UP TO DO THE FEW AVAILABLE ODD JOBS FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS, ONE OR TWO WOULD GET A JOB AND THE REST WOULD GO HOME. SOME GOT TEMPORARY WORK THROUGH HOUSE CONSTRUCTION, BUT THAT TOO ENDED AFTER A SHORT SEASON. WHAT STRUCK ME WAS

HOW DOMESTIC TENSIONS EASED WHEN A MAN WAS ABLE TO GET WORK, AND ROSE AGAIN OVER THE WINTER MONTHS AS THE COUPLE LIVED IN THEIR SMALL CABIN WITH NOTHING MUCH ELSE TO DO EXCEPT LOOK AT THE WALLS. WE NEED SECONDARY INDUSTRY USING LABOR-INTENSIVE INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY. THIS INDUSTRY IS OF COURSE NEEDED IN THE MORE POPULATED AREAS LIKE KENORA, BUT THE NEED FOR IT DOES NOT DIMINISH FARTHER BACK IN THE BUSH, IT INCREASES.

IN THE YEARS I WAS IN SANDY, I NOTICED ONE HEALING ACTIVITY FOR THESE COUPLES, WHICH MANY TIMES RESTORED BALANCE AND WHOLENESS TO THEIR LIVES: TRAPPING, HUNTING AND FISHING. MANY TIMES I HAVE SEEN SUCH COUPLES GO OFF WITH THEIR PARENTS AND EXTENDED FAMILIES INTO THE BUSH FOR A MONTH OR SIX WEEKS, RETURNING TO THE COMMUNITY RELAXED AND REFRESHED. I FEEL THAT THIS HAS A DIRECT BEARING ON THE STYLE AND TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT NORTH OF 50. IF WE MOVE INTO NORTHERN ONTARIO WITH CAPITAL INTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT, BASED ON RESOURCE EXPLOITATION, DESTROYING, OR IRREVERSIBLY DAMAGING THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE PROCESS, WE WILL DO LITTLE TO HELP AN ALREADY DETERIORATING SITUATION. CAPITAL INTENSIVE, RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRY OFFERS LITTLE IN THE WAY OF ECONOMIC STABILITY AS THE HISTORY OF ONE INDUSTRY TOWNS WELL ATTEST. ENVIRONMENT DESTROYING ACTIVITIES, POORLY CONTROLLED, WILL DESTROY ONE OF THE FEW THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES LEFT TO NORTHERN RESIDENTS. IF WE JUDGE THE VALUE OF TRAPLINES(AS THEY ARE PRESENTLY USED) SOLELY IN ECONOMIC TERMS, THEN WE FAIL TO APPRECIATE THEIR VALUE IN HUMAN TERMS. THE RESIDENTS OF SANDY LAKE THEMSELVES, ARE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO SHARE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAND AND THE THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF LIFE AS A PART OF IT, BUT I WISH ONLY TO COMMENT ON THIS FACT, AND ENCOURAGE YOU, MR. JUSTICE HARRIS, TO BEAR THIS IN MIND OVER THE COMING MONTHS. THERE IS MUCH HEALTH IN THE AREA NORTH OF 50. I HOPE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO OUR GOVERNMENT WILL

REFLECT A RECOGNITION OF THIS BY ENCOURAGING THIS HEALTH AND BUILDING WITH IT IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT. HISTORY ABOUNDS WITH EXAMPLES OF DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA WHICH DID NOT CHOOSE TO WORK CO-OPERATIVELY WITH LOCAL PEOPLE, AND REMAIN SENSITIVE TO THEIR NEEDS AND SOURCES OF STRENGTH. ONE OF THE WORST IS THE AREA IN WHICH I NOW RESIDE. GOD FORBID THAT WE, IN THE NAME OF MODERN DEVELOPMENT, REPEAT THE MISTAKES OF OUR FOREFATHERS ^{TOO MUCH} AS WE MOVE NORTH. WE'RE ALL/AWARE OF THE HIGH SOCIAL COST OF TRYING TO ASSIST A PEOPLE TO GET UP, DUST THEMSELVES OFF, AND GET MOVING AGAIN IN THE KENORA AREA, TO START THE WHOLE SORDID PROCESS IN ANOTHER AREA.

2. LOCAL CONTROL OF SERVICE INDUSTRY: IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE BULK OF THE POPULATION IN THE AREA NORTH OF 50 ARE INDIAN. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THE BULK OF THE SERVICE INDUSTRY IN THIS AREA IS ^{NOT} IN THE CONTROL OF THE PEOPLE WHO USE IT. I UNDERSTAND THAT ONTARIO ALREADY HAS LEGISLATION RESTRICTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOWNSITES WHEN OTHER TOWNS ALREADY EXIST WITHIN 60/OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT , IN ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT EXISTING BUSINESSES. AT PRESENT SERVICE INDUSTRY IN THE AREA IS PRIMARILY OWNED AND OPERATED BY NON RESIDENTS. IT APPEARS THAT EITHER THE TRANSFER OF ECONOMIC CONTROL OF SERVICE INDUSTRY, OR AT LEAST, THE DELIBERATE ENCOURAGEMENT OF COMPETITIVE INDIAN-CONTROLLED SERVICE INDUSTRY, BEFORE ANY BOOM OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, WOULD KEEP NEEDED REVENUE IN THIS NORTHERN AREA RATHER THAN FUNNELING IT SOUTH INTO THE POCKETS OF NON-RESIDENTS.

SO OFTEN WE IN THE DOMINANT SOCIETY, WITH CENTURIES OF POPULAR AWARENESS ABOUT THE MONETARY SYSTEM, APPLY THE SAME EXPECTATIONS TO RESIDENTS OF INDIAN COMMUNITIES AS WE APPLY TO OURSELVES, FORGETTING THAT THE MONETARY SYSTEM HAS BEEN A PART OF THEIR HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE FOR LESS THAN 75 YEARS. WITH A POPULAR UNDERSTANDING OF ECONOMIC FACTORS

MORE OR LESS WHERE THE TRADERS LEFT IT, I AM AMAZED THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS DEVELOPED WHAT IT HAS.

THERE HAS BEEN, OF COURSE, SOME GOOD WORK DONE BY THE ECONOMIC ADVISORS IN INDIAN AFFAIRS, THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DEAL OF ADULT EDUCATION WITHIN THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND THE ADVENT OF RADIO AND TV WILL MAKE CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE IN THE GENERAL LEVEL OF ECONOMIC AWARENESS, BUT GIVEN OUR PRESENT TIME FRAME, EDUCATION FOR LOCAL CONTROL OF SERVICE INDUSTRY MUST BE ACCELERATED IF THE NORTH IS TO BENEFIT FROM THE SPIN-OFF OF DEVELOPMENT.

WE, AS THE DOMINANT SOCIETY, HAVEN'T COME NEAR DOING OUR SHARE IN SUPPORTING, ENCOURAGING, AND FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL CONTROL OF SERVICE INDUSTRY. ALL TOO OFTEN, LOCAL INITIATIVES THAT DO EMERGE, ARE MET WITH A BARRAGE OF RED TAPE AND BUREAUCRACY WHICH SERVES ONLY TO DISCOURAGE THOSE TRYING TO GAIN CONTROL OF THEIR OWN LIVES. HOW ARE PEOPLE TO DEVELOP VIABLE ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES TO THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY, FREE TRADERS, AND OUTSIDE AIRLINE COMPANIES IF THEY CONSTANTLY RUN INTO HIGHLY COMPLEX RESTRICTIVE BANNING PRACTICE, AND PROTECTIVE REGULATIONS SUCH AS THOSE GOVERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AIRLINES IN AN AREA ALREADY SERVED BY AN OUTSIDE AIRLINE. IN THIS PARTICULAR EXAMPLE, DEVELOPMENT IS HAIPPERED BY OUTDATED REGULATIONS PUT INTO EFFECT TO COPE WITH THE SURPLUS OF PILOTS AND AIRCRAFT AFTER THE WAR. CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED, AND LAWS WHICH AT ONE TIME HELPED NORTHERNERS BY ENSURING THE EXISTENCE OF AIR SERVICE AT ALL IN AN AREA OF LIMITED COMMERCE, ARE NOW BEING USED NEEDLESSLY TO INHIBIT LOCAL INVOLVEMENT IN THIS SERVICE INDUSTRY. I HOPE IN YOUR WORK YOU WILL BE ALERT TO SUCH ROADBLOCKS TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT WITH A VIEW TO THEIR REMOVAL.

3. INCREASE OF AIRLINE SAFETY IN THE NORTH: ALTHOUGH AIRLINE SAFETY AND REGULATION IS A FEDERAL MATTER, AND THIS IS A PROVINCIAL INQUIRY, I FEEL

THIS COMMISSION MUST ADDRESS ITSELF TO THE SAFETY OF BOTH PRESENT RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES COMING TO WORK HERE IN THE FUTURE. RECENT REPORTS FROM TORONTO AND OTTAWA ARE TIMELY IN THIS MATTER. IT IS NOW ALMOST THREE YEARS SINCE TOMAHALK AIRWAYS' PLANE, CF-FXH, CRASHED KILLING THE PILOT AND ONE PASSENGER, AND ALMOST THREE YEARS SINCE THE INQUEST RECOMMENDED A FULL INQUIRY INTO AIRLINE SAFETY IN THE NORTH. ALMOST THREE YEARS SINCE MANY OF US FINALLY DECIDED THAT WE HAD HAD ENOUGH OF UNSAFE AIRLINE PRACTICE, AND DID OUR BEST TO PRESS FOR AN INQUIRY. WHAT DID WE GET? OUR OWN MP, JOHN REID, TOLD ME, ON BEING QUESTIONED AS TO WHY THERE HAD BEEN NO ACTION ON THE CORONER'S JURY RECOMMENDATION FOR AN INQUIRY, "OH, I WAS INFORMED THAT IT WAS JUST A LOCAL ATTEMPT TO 'GET TOMAHALK' SO WE JUST IGNORED IT". THREE YEARS SINCE I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION IN OTTAWA THAT THEY HAD HIRED AND TRAINED MORE INSPECTORS FOR THE AREA, AND IMPLYING THERE WOULD BE NO MORE PROBLEM. AND IN THOSE THREE YEARS, THERE HAS BEEN A TRAIL OF BLOOD FROM ONE INQUEST TO ANOTHER. AND NOW, FINALLY, THIS LATEST CONFIDENTIAL REPORT FOLLOWING THE EXTENDED TRIP OF TWO INVESTIGATORS SUBSTANTIATING THE CHARGES OF UNSAFE PRACTICE. AS A PILOT, I AM AWARE THAT THIS SORT OF PRACTICE IS UNNECESSARY. TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT EXIST NOW AND ARE IN COMMON USAGE WHICH WOULD MAKE AIRLINE SAFETY IN THIS AREA AS SAFE AS IT IS IN OTHER PARTS OF OUR COUNTRY, IF NOT MORE SO, IF WE, AS A PROVINCE ENDORSE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN THIS PART OF THE PROVINCE WITHOUT FORCING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BRING UNDER CONTROL THE ASPECTS OF LIFE HERE WHICH FALL UNDER ITS JURISDICTION, AND FOR WHICH THEY ALREADY HAVE LEGISLATION, THEN WE ARE SIMPLY SIGNING THE DEATH WARRANT FOR MANY OF OUR FUTURE RESIDENTS. A GREAT SERVICE COULD BE DONE BY THIS COMMISSION FOR THIS AREA IF IT ENCOURAGES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A PARALLEL ENQUIRY INTO AIR SAFETY IN A REGION IN WHICH YOU, YOURSELF, MR. HIRTT, WILL BE TRAVELLING EXTENSIVELY BY AIR OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS,

4. DELIBERATE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN TWO CULTURES: THE FINAL AREA I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON IS THE NEED FOR THIS ENQUIRY TO PROMOTE THE DELIBERATE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN OUR DOMINANT CULTURE AND THAT OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE RESIDENT IN MOST OF THE LAND IN QUESTION. THE NEED FOR THIS IS MUTUAL. THIS INFORMATION EXCHANGE IS ALREADY BEING PROMOTED BY YOUR VERY PRESENCE IN YOUR PART OF THE PROVINCE. MORE PEOPLE ARE READING MATERIAL ABOUT OUR FUTURE AND PONDERING THE BASIC ISSUES THAN HAS EVER BEEN THE CASE BEFORE. HOWEVER, THERE ARE TWO AREAS IN WHICH I FEEL THIS SHARING IS NOT GOING ON, AND MUST, IF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION IS TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN WHAT YOU HAVE ALLUDED TO AS POLARIZED GROUPS. FIRST, THERE MUST BE A GROWING AWARENESS ON THE PART OF THE DOMINANT CULTURE THAT THE INDIAN CULTURE, WHICH IS TO A GREAT EXTENT STILL INTACT NORTH OF 50, HAS A GREAT MANY THINGS TO OFFER US WHICH WE OURSELVES ARE QUITE OPENLY SEEKING THE ANSWERS FOR: A HEALTHIER APPROACH TO THE HANDLING OF GRIEF AND DEATH, A MORE PERSONAL APPROACH TO THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE, A MORE SANE VIEW OF MAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO HIS ENVIRONMENT, AND A MORE APPROPRIATE WAY OF RELATING TO PAST OFFENDORS AGAINST SOCIETY, TO NAME ONLY A FEW I HAVE NOTICED. UNTIL WE IN THE DOMINANT SOCIETY COME TO APPRECIATE THE GIFTS THE INDIAN SOCIETY HAS TO OFFER US, WE WILL CONTINUE TO TREAT THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR LIFESTYLE IN THIS PART OF ONTARIO LIGHTLY, GIVING NO THOUGHT TO THE TREASURES WE ARE LOSING.

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT INDIAN CULTURE IS MUCH MORE PEOPLE ORIENTED THAN OBJECT ORIENTED, AND OUR OWN CULTURE IS JUST THE REVERSE. A STUDY OF OUR LANGUAGES REFLECTS THIS BASIC DIFFERENCE IN EMPHASIS, BUT IT IS ONE OF EMPHASIS. WE ARE GOOD IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICAL THINGS, AND IN THE CREATION OF TOOLS TO ASSIST US IN OUR LIFE. WHEN WE ARE AT OUR BEST, AND NOT MINDLESSLY DESTROYING THE WORLD AROUND US, WE DO CREATE SOME MARVELOUS INVENTIONS WHICH ENRICH OUR LIFE TOGETHER. I WOULD ENCOURAGE THIS ENQUIRY TO BECOME WATCHFUL FOR WAYS BY WHICH OUR TWO CULTURES

CAN COME TO KNOW MORE ABOUT EACH OTHER, AND HARVEST THE RICH TREASURES EACH HAS TO OFFER THE OTHER. I FEEL THAT THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AS IT IS THIS COMMISSION WHICH IS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO US ALL WHICH MIGHT EITHER JEOPARDIZE SUCH COMMUNICATION OR ENHANCE IT. THE DELIBERATE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDIA PRODUCTIONS WITHIN INDIAN COMMUNITIES IS AN OBVIOUS AREA TO BEGIN.

I MUST ADD, HOWEVER, THAT WE TOO MUST SHARE. WE HAVE GIVEN INDIAN PEOPLE THE VOTE, AND YET, HAVING LIVED IN SANDY THROUGH SEVERAL ELECTIONS I AM APPALLED AT HOW LITTLE ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO HELP THEM UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT. WE HAVE PUT GREAT EFFORT INTO ASSISTING NEW ARRIVED IMMIGRANTS TO UNDERSTAND OUR SYSTEM AND HOW IT OPERATES TO FACILITATE THEIR INVOLVEMENT, BUT VERY LITTLE INTO HELPING OUR NATIVE NEIGHBOURS WITH THE SAME THING. WHEN I TRIED TO PERSUADE THIS LETTER TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, I GOT THE MERRY RUN-AROUND, ENDING WITH "MISTER SIR, IT IS SAFELY IN THE HANDS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, AND THEY ARE DOING A FINE JOB OF IT", WHICH I ALREADY KNEW TO BE INACCURATE. ONCE AGAIN, I HOPE THAT THIS COMMISSION IN ITS TRAVELS KEEPS AN EYE OPEN FOR WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN BE MORE CONSCIOUS ABOUT OUR PART IN THIS TASK OF MUTUAL COMMUNICATION.

IN CLOSING, I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A PHOTOGRAPH, WHICH I HOPE YOU KEEP BEFORE YOU WHEN YOU FINALLY COME TO WRITING YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW WE SHOULD APPROACH DEVELOPMENT IN THIS PART OF ONTARIO. I GIVE IT BECAUSE I KNOW YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT: THAT IS PART OF OUR HERITAGE, IT IS PART OF OUR VERY BEING. I GIVE IT BECAUSE IT SPEAKS OF THE OTHER DIMENSION OF LIFE WHICH WE ARE ALL SEEKING - TO BALANCE THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT RUN RAMPANT.

LET ME POINT OUT A FEW ASPECTS OF THE PHOTO. IT WAS TAKEN A FEW DAYS BEFORE LEAVING SANDY LAKE. EACH YEAR, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY GATHER IN A CLEARING IN THE WOODS WELL UP THE STAIN RIVER. THEY REENACT THE BIBLICAL STORY OF CHRIST CHANGING 5 LOAVES AND 2 FISH INTO AMPLE RESOURCES FOR ALL. THE INCIDENT WHICH THIS PICNIC COMMEMORATES HAS A MESSAGE FOR US WHICHEVER INTERPRETATION OF THE STORY WE PREFER; THAT OF A MIRACULOUS GROWTH OF FOOD SUPPLY, OR THAT OF A TRANSFORMATION OF A SELFISH CROWD INTO AN UNSELFISH CROWD--NO LESS A MIRACLE. A HEALING SERVICE FOLLOWED. THE MEN BEING PRAYED FOR ARE LEADERS. THOSE PRAYING FOR THEM ARE THE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THE COMMUNITY. HEALING IS EFFECTED THROUGH PRAYER AND THE TOUCH OF LOVED ONES. AT THE RIGHT EDGE OF THE PICTURE CAN BE SEEN A CORNER OF AN AMPLIFIER AND AN ELECTRIC GUITAR, POWERED BY AN UNSEEN GENERATOR HUMMING OFF BEHIND THE BUSH. TO ME THE PICTURE SPEAKS OF WHAT I HEAR THE PEOPLE OF THE TREATY 9 AREA SAYING. THEY ARE NOT AGAINST TECHNOLOGY OR DEVELOPMENT, AND THEY USE IT THEMSELVES TO ENRICH THEIR LIVES. BUT THEY REFUSE TO SAY THAT TECHNOLOGY IS EVERYTHING, OR THAT ANYTHING CAN BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE TOUCH OF LIFE ON LIFE. THEY, LIKE SO MANY OF US IN THE DOMINANT SOCIETY, ARE CALLING OUT FOR A BALANCE WITHIN OUR LIFE, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE SEE THE DESTRUCTION WHICH ACCOMPANIES UNCONTROLLED, SHORT-SIGHTED GROWTH.

I HOPE THIS PICTURE SERVES TO REMIND YOU OF THE PEOPLE AND SOMETHING OF THE RICH SOCIETY IN THE SECTION OF ONTARIO YOUR WORDS TO US WILL AFFECT. I HOPE IT BRINGS TO MIND MANY OTHER FACES YOU WILL MEET OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS, AND SOME OF THE RICHES YOU WILL NO DOUBT GAIN FROM THEM AS YOU LISTEN IN THIS UNIQUE WAY. I HOPE IT PROVIDES A CATALYST WHICH DRAWS TOGETHER ENOUGH OF THE QUIET SIDE OF THE STORY, TO BALANCE OUR VERY VOCAL AND ARTICULATE DEMANDS FOR RESOURCES, AND ENABLES YOU TO ALL OF US TO BRING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LIFE, ABUNDANT LIFE.

CAZON

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

FRED CAMERON

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

FRED CAMERON
Whitedog Reserve

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve

on

January 18, 1978

EXHIBIT # 270

RETIPIED FOR PRINTING

CERTIFIED
TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL

February 21, 1978

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION
CAN BE VIEWED AT THE
COMMISSION OFFICES AT
55 BLOOR STREET WEST,
TORONTO

Environmental Impact

To those of you who are unware of the issue, I think the subject could pretty well speak for itself when we refer to it as a type of enviromental Impact, whether it be a form on commercial fishing, rice picking, trapping, flooding of one man lake, etc. ...

The band member have awknowledged, I repeat awknowledged, the fact that govermental response were considered somewhat to be on the negative aspect, we then heard rumors of compensation, altanative aspects to things we saw were inadequate.

Then in some form or another major topics hit the headlines like for instance progression, unemployment, the Quebec Crisis, (just to name a few).

We the native people have always fought for what was rightly ours, fought discrimination, let alone the fact that elders now are talking about fate itself, a subject which has a great deal in doubt to whether the remaining existance of both our youths and elders, are now safe from what we call the outside world.

We the band members of Whitedog ask of you Mr. Speaker, Justice Hartt, Could the people of Whitedog and I think we can speak on Grassy Narrow's behalf, be defined as the "Victims of Injustice".

CAZON

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

BAPTIST BIGBLOOD
WHITEDOG RESERVE

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE
ON
JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

BAPTIST BIGBLOOD
Whitedog Reserve

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve

on

January 18, 1978

EXHIBIT # 271

RETIPIED FOR PRINTING

CERTIFIED
TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL

S. Wright
February 2, 1978

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION
CAN BE VIEWED AT THE
COMMISSION OFFICES AT
55 BLOOR STREET WEST,
TORONTO

FREE POWER FOR WHITEDOG

The Ontario Hydro built two dams to produce electricity. One is located on the English River. It floods many things - timber, wild rice fields, Indian Reserve and small animal habitat. Where trappers used to get many muskrat they are now hard to find. They are scattered all over the lake. Fishing was ruined because of sticks and other floating articles.

The other dam is located on the Winnipeg River. Many problems were caused by this dam. Water levels ruined about 75% of the wild rice crop and again many muskrat were drowned by the increasing water levels. Not only that but they were also forced out of their homes frozen to death.

The Hydro built a road through the reserve and used a lot of timber and gravel. They put up a big power line to take the electricity away.

The power that is used on the reserve is about twenty dollars a house, on the average. This means one house pays twenty dollars a month and two hundred and forty dollars a year. Sixty houses have paid for Hydro for ten years and this adds up to one hundred and forty four thousand dollars. This amount is probably more than the cost of running power onto the resrve. By now Whitedog has paid for installation of electricity. Because of the damage done to the land electricity should be available to the reserve at no charge.

Baptist Bigblood

CA 20N

Z1

- 77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

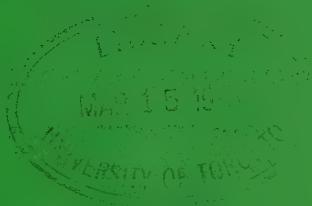
MR. ANTHONY HENRY

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

Mr. Anthony Henry
Islington Reserve
Whitedog, Ontario

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve

on

January 18, 1978

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

This exhibit is produced by

VIEWS ON HYDRO, MERCURY, & EDUCATION

Anthony, Ken
this 18 day of Jan 1978

Welcome to Whitedog, Justice Hartt. It is with deep appreciation that I greet your arrival here. I sincerely hope that what you hear today will be considered with an open mind, and that you will come to understand our concerns and our needs for the future.

Industrial development in the past has been carried out with disastrous results to the people of Whitedog and surrounding areas. I need not go into great detail as I am certain that you, as the head of this Inquiry, are surely aware of the present situation here. A quick summary will relate that Hydro's "industrial development" only served to flood the lands of one of our reserves, One Man Lake, including homes, hunting and trappinggrounds, fishing and wild rice areas, and graveyards. Hydro's so-called "industrial development" only served to destroy a large part of our lifestyle and our security. What benefits have come to us as a result of Hydro's "industrial development"? Immediately, I can think of none. The people of Whitedog pay exorbitant Hydro rates for the "benefits" of this development - and are continuing to pay an intangible amount in the way of the continuing destruction of our traditional ways of life.

One cannot ignore the aftermath of the pulp and paper industry's progressive development. Many miles upstream from our community rests a factory designed to carry out "industrial development". - the Dryden Paper Mill, owned and operated by Reed Ltd. Do I need to emphasize the effects that this company has brought upon us? I think the present facts speak for themselves. We have to live with the ever-present knowledge that the Winnipeg River upon which we live, and the fish contained within this river, are contaminated by mercury. This very same mercury is the ominous force that is presently completing the destruction of our social and economic structures, in ways that you are no doubt already aware of.

So what have we, the people of Whitedog, experienced as a result of "industrial development". In material terms, we have lost homes, hunting and trapping grounds, fishing and wild rice areas, and burial grounds. Losses that cannot be recorded within data include our security, our economic stability, our traditional lifestyles, and our independence.

If there has been anything constructive arising from the horrible aftermath of development in this area, perhaps it has been the outspoken determination of Native people not to allow history to repeat itself. We can no longer whisper our objections,

then permit the agents of industrial development to ignore our voices. We must speak out, let ourselves be heard, and establish our needs and viewpoints as valuable criteria in deciding the directions of future development.

Education is a prime concern of mine. Until the children of Whitedog receive a level of education equal to that in provincial schools elsewhere, we will remain handicapped on our struggle for economic stability within our own community, and for influential and unified communication on provincial and national levels. The children of today are our leaders of tomorrow and they must have every available opportunity for a solid education. This is not so that they will learn to become "brown white men" as Harold Cardinal once described, but so that they can return to Whitedog and lead our community towards hope and self-sufficiency, on our own terms.

Present educational standards here do not give our children this opportunity. Again, the facts speak for themselves. No one from Whitedog, has ever graduated from high school with a diploma in Grade 12 or 13. Many people have tried very hard, but they hardly stand a chance when they enter high school at a lower standard than their provincial counterparts. Teachers in the federal school system have an incredibly high turnover rate - in this very school of 7 operating

classrooms, within the past four years, there have been 21 different teachers. That does not even include the new teachers in the school this year. Such an astounding turnover rate does not allow for learning continuity. Many of these teachers are first year teachers who arrive armed with optimism, and irrelevant, sometimes dangerous theories of education, which they thrust upon our children with ardent enthusiasm. Most of the new teachers have been first year teachers who seem to stay only long enough to obtain their permanent teaching certificates. While changes are being made for the better, the importance of Native culture is largely ignored in curricula both at federal and provincial levels. This is largely due to the lack of resource material - a medium which is sadly lacking in all aspects of curricula in federal schools. The teachers at Islington School have had this problem of lack of resources for a long time. This is indeed a beautiful school, one that we can justly be proud of. The physical appearance of a school, though, cannot justify the internal problems that beset our present quality of education. We want and need our children to be given every available chance at a solid education - one that will enable them to retain self-respect and feelings of worth, and at the same time, train them to cope with the problems of the larger society. It

is from them that Whitedog will receive its guidance and strength in the future. It is in their hands that the reins of controlled development will rest.

In closing, Justice Hartt, I ask you to consider all what I have said and remember that once we were a proud and self-sufficient people. Look around and see what past "industrial development" has done for us. Any future industrial development must only be considered once all voices have been heard and evaluated. All people must be aware of all potential hazards to personal health and environmental changes. Anything destructive or potentially life-endangering must not be carried out. Benefits for one corner of society at the expense of another must be disregarded. Cooperation, compassion, and honesty must be ever-present, both in the Commission's work, and also when and if there is to be future industrial development in the North. Thank you for listening - we will look forward to your return for a longer visit with us.

Anthony Henry,
Islington Reserve,
Whitedog, Ontario.

CAZON
ZI
-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT
BY

MR. WILLIAM McDONALD

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E.P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

Mr. William McDonald
Islington Reserve
Whitedog, Ontario
POX 1P0

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve
on
January 18, 1978

NOTE

Exhibit 273 contains both the English and Ojibway translation in this copy.

273
No. 273

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment
This exhibit is produced by
William McDonald
this 18 day of Jan 1978
J. Agar

PRESENTATION TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY; William McDonald
Islington Band Member
Whitedog, Ontario

Wm. McDonald is a resident of the Islington Band,
Whitedog, Ontario.

Age 71, he was a Trapper for most of his life.

As his story relates, Hydro flooding has

- destroyed his trapping in winter
- his sturgeon fishing in summer
- wild rice harvesting in fall.

He mentioned in the course of the interview, that his netting areas were flooded, his trapping areas flooded, and the marches where trapping was most successful disappeared.

In the past 20 years, he has lost wild rice through Hydro releases.

William McDonald -(Translation)

Hudro started to work on the powerhouse at Whitedog Falls and another at Caribou Falls.

Hydro did not have a place to build a road for access to both dams without going through the reserve.

They asked the reserve for permission to build the road.

The reserve agreed with Hydro to have the road built.

Hydro has two clearings (one for the road; one for the powerline) and a dam at Goshawk to stop water from flowing to Whitedog Lake (diverted flow to the English River).

These are the three items I haven't seen any payment for.

When he (Hydro) flooded the English River he flooded out my traplines. Also my fishing areas. Also one reserve, One Man Lake.

There are some people that drown, as a result of the flooding. These people drowned, in rapids. They didn't know . (Didn't know the rapids existed as they were not there before Hydro changed the water levels).

They also did damages to my muskrat trapping areas.

What will we live on!

There is another thing that came to our area. We were advised not to eat the fish - we will get poisoned.

You will get poisoned if you eat Whitedog fish and English River fish.

Fish is poisonous - as we are told by doctors.

What will we live on!

We have to ask help.

That is all I've got to say.

Good-bye.

I am William McDonald.

I

White Dog Gitano

Dec 8/77

Me e way ke pe lih quish thing. Hydro
white Dog falls me jeet moj che Toot-ke-pah
gan. Tee o she toot-keay yah pe pay shig
O ke we O she toon Caribou falls me tush kah
ween. Oke ah yah seen, ah tee, kay e nah
mo che kait-me tush ke kah quait twait
l shko ne kah ring. Awe e nah mo che kait
ke pah ke te nah tush. Che e nah mo toot -
me kah nah. Neesh tush l O tah yeh naun
tah we kah e gan naun. Me kah nah.
kah ya. powerline. pay shig tush.
ke pah e gan. kay kaik quah pe koong
me waun no way. he sway waun. kah ween -
l to che wah pah tah seen. Che te pah ah -
nah we yah kit. O O nah. e shko ne kah -
ring. me tush. ke moosh ke kah O toot
shah kah naish she we se pe. me tush ke wah
nauch che toot. he wah he e kay we ne naun
nin. kah ya. e pah ke tah way we ne naun
kah ya. pay shig. e shko nig gan. one man Lak

Kah ya. ah nint-o che nis sah pah way
 waug. ne we che wah kah ne haun nig
 a wah ne we nig ko want. ne pe.

pah kaun e she ah no ke mah gan ne pe
 a moosh Rah ang. me e ke wah nah the-
 tool. ne wah shauhk quah ne e kay win
 kah ya. e pah ke teh way win.

way ko rain tush. Kay O tah te se young

me not wah tush. pay Shig kay ko.
 e to te se ko min. e pe o che e ko min.
 ke ko. che ah mwah se wah kit-
 kay koo. ah mwah kain. kee ko.
 e te ko min. ke kah pe chip poom.

keesh pin. ah mwaig white dog fish
 kah ya. english river fish

pe che po win ne we. keekoo. e tegko min
 Marsh ke ke we ne ne waug. kah e ke to want-

way ko nay tush. Kay O tah te se young.

me atoh ko. kay ko. che we che e ko young
 me me niq a ke to young. Poo Shoo

CAZDN

ZI

-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

Ontario

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARRIS
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS
Islington Reserve
Whitedog, Ontario
POX 1P0

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve

on

January 18, 1978

MISSIONS INDIENNES CATHOLIQUES
CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS

P.O. BOX 348

RED LAKE, ONTARIO

42-DISCONTINUED.

TELEPHONE 444-4444

Islington Reserve,
White Dog, January 18, 1978

Honourable Justice Martt and members of the Commission:

My name is Sister Simone Lefebvre and I am a missionary working with the people of the White Dog and Grassy Narrows reserves, ~~bring them a message of hope, love and concern~~.

My remarks will be brief. I will not present statistics since you have already heard these in several briefs ^{submitted} presented in Kenora yesterday but rather I come to plead for our native people in the name of God and the Church. I come to ask you to listen to our people whose very hearts are bleeding, people who want development but not to the detriment of their very lives, who want a voice in decisions affecting their very livelihood.

Alcohol and drugs are not the No. 1 problems: these are just crutches. Their problems are much more deep seated. Many have lost hope, have lost the meaning of their God-given lives. Just this week at White Dog, we returned to our Creator and to Mother Earth, a beautiful young girl of 18 and again at Grassy Narrows another child of 14 is awaiting burial. Is this not enough to make us sit up and think and act. Our Ojibway brothers and sisters belong to a proud race, they are loving, generous, independent and they do not want hand-outs. They are concerned about their future and that of their children and are looking for help in finding just solutions to their problems.

In closing I would like to quote this song - I do not know where it originated or where I picked it up but I feel the point is clear

One day the Lord made up His mind
That he'd create a man
He gave us all equality
At least that was His plan
But man decided that it would be a sin
For all men to be equal
Regardless of his skin
So who can say that God was wrong
And that His race was right
'Cause His children through it all
They knew that He was right
A red, black and yellow

MISSIONS INDIENNES CATHOLIQUES
CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS

P.O. BOX 418

RED LAKE, ONTARIO

47 DISCOVERY RD.

TELEPHONE 474

A colour just like white
So who can say that God was wrong
And that His race was right.

There's so much talk of brotherhood
And love for one another
Why don't we act the way we should
Brother unto brother
Why do we set ourselves apart
Each unto his own
Why don't we try togetherness
And let our freedom roam
Then we could walk the road of life
And never have to hide
With equal rights for all men
Until the day we die.

Honourable Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my personal opinion and may God bless you as you pursue your most difficult task.

CAZON
ZI
-77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY
A-MOG (ANTI-MERCURY OJIBWAY GROUP)
WHITEDOG AND GRASSY NARROWS
INDIAN RESERVES

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

A-MOG (Anti-Mercury Ojibway
Group)

c/o Grand Council Treaty #3
P.O. Box 1720
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3X7

PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve
on
January 18, 1978

A-MOG

MERCURY OJIBWAY GROUP
TEDOG and GRASSY NARROWS
INDIAN RESERVES



SEARCHED
c/o Grand Council Treaty No. 3
P.O. Box 1720
Kenora, Ont.
P9N 3X7

No. 275

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment
This exhibit is produced by

A-MOG

this 18 day of February 1978

INTRODUCTION

Mr. COMMISSIONER, WE ARE PLEASED TO ADDRESS YOU IN OUR HOMELAND. THE ANTI-MERCURY OJIBWAY GROUP HAS SPOKEN TO YOU EARLIER IN YOUR HEARINGS, AT DRYDEN. WE ARE GLAD OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU AGAIN AND IN MORE DETAIL AS YOUR PRELIMINARY HEARINGS DRAW TO A CONCLUSION. WE ARE PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE SEEN FIT TO COME TO OUR LAND AND VISIT WITH OUR PEOPLE. WE ARE SURE THAT IN THIS WAY YOU WILL GAIN AN APPRECIATION OF OUR SITUATION WHICH WILL BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO YOU IN YOUR DELIBERATIONS. THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK DIRECTLY TO YOU IS ONE WHICH HAS NOT FREQUENTLY BEEN PROVIDED TO OUR PEOPLE BY THE GOVERNMENTS WITH WHICH WE MUST DEAL.

NOTE

We wish to outline to you the story we want to tell to your Commission when your main hearings commence. We will try to indicate what we want to say and why it is important for your Commission. We know you will give it your fullest consideration.

OUR ORGANIZATION

AS WE HAVE INDICATED TO YOU EARLIER, THE ANTI-MERCURY OJIBWAY GROUP IS AN ORGANIZATION SET UP BY THE ISLINGTON AND GRASSY NARROWS INDIAN BANDS TO DEAL WITH THE TERRIBLE PROBLEMS OF MERCURY POLLUTION WHICH ARE NOW EVER PRESENT ON THE WHITEDOG AND GRASSY NARROWS INDIAN RESERVES.

AMOG WAS INCORPORATED IN THE SPRING OF 1977 AS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, AND CONTROLLED ENTIRELY BY THESE TWO BANDS. IT IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HALF OF WHOM ARE APPOINTED BY THE BAND COUNCIL OF THE ISLINGTON BAND AND ONE-HALF OF WHOM ARE APPOINTED BY THE BAND COUNCIL OF THE GRASSY NARROWS BAND.

THE PURPOSE OF AMOG IS TO ATTACK THIS INSIDIOUS PROBLEM OF MERCURY POLLUTION. OUR ORGANIZATION IS DESIGNED TO GATHER TOGETHER THE BEST AVAILABLE EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION CONCERNING MERCURY POLLUTION. ITS AIM IS TO CARRY ON THE BATTLE AGAINST MERCURY POLLUTION ON A WIDE VARIETY OF FRONTS. THESE INCLUDE RESEARCH, EDUCATION, POLITICAL ACTIVITY, INFORMATION GATHERING, AND LITIGATION. AMOG HAS SET UP AN OFFICE IN KENORA AND WORK HAS BEGUN ON CERTAIN MERCURY RELATED PROJECTS.

AMOG HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS AND GOVERNMENTS FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SPECIFIC MERCURY RELATED RESEARCH. EQUIPMENT AND OFFICE SPACE HAVE BEEN DONATED BY GRAND COUNCIL TREATY NO. 3 AND OTHER OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE PARTICULARLY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND ADVICE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

IT IS THE HOPE AND INTENTION OF THE CHIEFS AND THE BAND COUNCILS THAT AMOG WILL GIVE THEM THE CAPACITY TO DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH MERCURY POLLUTION. IN THIS ENDEAVOUR AMOG HAS THE FULL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT OF GRAND COUNCIL TREATY NO. 3. THE WORK IS JUST BEGINNING. IT WILL BE A LONG AND ARDUOUS ROAD. NONETHELESS THE ORGANIZATION IS THERE. THE WILL IS THERE. AND THE EFFORT IS BEGINNING. THE BATTLE OVER MERCURY POLLUTION IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE LOST.

PRESENT CONDITIONS

MR. COMMISSIONER, YOU HAVE HEARD FROM OUR PEOPLE. THEY HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT THEIR LIVES AND THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS THAT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED FOR THEM BY MERCURY POISONING.

YOU HAVE ALSO HEARD FROM INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED SCIENTISTS WHO HAVE TOLD YOU OF THE DESPERATE SITUATION WHICH MERCURY POISONING PRESENTS FOR OUR TWO BANDS.

TOGETHER THESE PEOPLE HAVE TOLD YOU IN THE MOST GRAPHIC WAY POSSIBLE OF THE DIFFICULTIES PRESENTED TO THEM BECAUSE OF MERCURY.

MERCURY HAS POISONED INDIVIDUALS. MATTHEW BEAVER OF THE GRASSY NARROWS BAND REGISTERED THREE-HUNDRED AND FIFTY PARTS PER BILLION MERCURY IN HIS BLOOD IN NOVEMBER, 1975. HE HAD TROUBLE WITH HIS SPEECH, CRAMPS IN HIS JAWS, NUMBNESS IN HIS TONGUE. HIS VISION WAS DETERIORATING. MATTHEW IS THIRTY-FOUR YEARS OF AGE. ONCE A PRO-HOCKEY PROSPECT. THE DAMAGE TO HIS NERVOUS SYSTEM IS NOW OBVIOUS. FOR HIM, MERCURY POISONING IS AN EVER PRESENT AND TRAGIC WAY OF LIFE. HE IS NOT ALONE.

EVEN FOR THOSE IN OUR BANDS WHO HAVE NOT THEMSELVES SUFFERED THE DEVASTATION OF MERCURY POISONING, THERE IS THE REALITY OF THE TERRIFYING FEAR THAT SOME DAY IT WILL COME TO THEM. EXPERIENCES FROM JAPAN HAVE TAUGHT US THAT CASES OF CONGENITAL MERCURY POISONING CAN STRIKE AT ANY TIME. MARCEL PAHPASAY, ONE OF OUR BAND MEMBERS, TELLS THE STORY FOR ALL OF US. HIS SON LIES IN THUNDER BAY HOSPITAL, BLIND, DEFORMED AND RETARDED. OUR FEAR IS THAT HE IS A VICTIM, PERHAPS OUR FIRST AND PROBABLY NOT OUR LAST.

WE ASK YOU TO VISIT OUR RESERVES AND STAY. IF YOU DO SO, YOU WILL COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS EVER-PRESENT FEAR INVADES ALL CORNERS OF OUR RESERVES AND OUR LIVES.

BEYOND THESE EFFECTS ON OUR PEOPLE, MERCURY HAS CAUSED US UNTOLD UNHAPPINESS BECAUSE OF ITS EFFECTS ON OUR WAY OF LIFE. IN 1970, QUITE WITHOUT WARNING, AND BECAUSE OF MERCURY POLLUTION, COMMERCIAL FISHING WAS BANNED ON OUR RIVER SYSTEM. FOR US THIS WAS NOT SIMPLY A LOSS OF ECONOMIC LIVELIHOOD. IT REPRESENTED THE LOSS OF OUR LIFESTYLE. FOR OUR PEOPLE, COMMERCIAL FISHING WAS A WAY OF LIFE. DAY IN AND DAY OUT OUR MEN PLACED THEIR NETS IN TRADITIONAL FISHING AREAS. THE CATCHES OF PIKE AND WALLEYE WERE SOLD TO BUYERS FROM KENORA. EACH DAY THE WOMEN WOULD FIX THE NETS FOR THE NEXT DAY'S CATCH. FAMILY LIFE REVOLVED AROUND FISHING, YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT. NOW THIS IS GONE.

GONE TOO IS MUCH OF THE GUIDING WHICH OUR PEOPLE PERFORMED FOR TOURIST CAMP OPERATORS. BARNEY LAMM'S LODGE USED TO OCCUPY MOST OF OUR PEOPLE AT GRASSY NARROWS WHO WANTED TO WORK. SINCE THE LODGE WAS CLOSED IN 1972 BECAUSE OF MERCURY POLLUTION, THE GUIDING AND OTHER SERVICING OF THIS CAMP HAS GONE.

WORSE, THOSE TOURIST CAMP OPERATORS WHO HAVE TRIED TO STAY IN BUSINESS AND HAVE CONTINUED TO EMPLOY SOME OF OUR PEOPLE, SIMPLY EXPOSE THEM TO THE DISASTROUS MEDICAL EFFECTS OF FURTHER MERCURY POLLUTION. OUR PEOPLE WHO GUIDE ARE NECESSARILY REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EATING OF THE FISH CAUGHT BY THE TOURISTS. THEY ARE PRESSURED BY THE OPERATORS TO AVOID ANY BAD PUBLICITY FOR THE RIVER SYSTEM AND TO HIDE THE MERCURY POLLUTION WHEREVER POSSIBLE. WHILE TOURISTS WHO STAY ONLY A FEW DAYS MAY NOT SUFFER MUCH, OUR PEOPLE CONTINUE TO CARRY THIS MASSIVE RISK.

MERCURY HAS ALSO MEANT FOR MANY OF US THE LOSS OF OUR NORMAL FOOD SOURCE. TO EAT THE FISH IS TO EAT POISON YET FOR YEARS INDEED CENTURIES, WE HAVE LIVED OFF THIS FISH. THOSE OF US WHO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STOP OUR CONSUMPTION HAVE HAD TO TURN TO OTHER FOOD SOURCES AT TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC COST. MANY OF US HOWEVER HAVE CONTINUED WITH OUR HABITUAL CONSUMPTION. BREAKING THIS PATTERN IS NO EASIER THAN TO STOP SMOKING. YET TO CONTINUE RUNS TERRIBLE RISKS.

MERCURY HAS ROBBED US OF OUR HEALTH, OUR PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL BEING, OUR LIFESTYLES, OUR JOBS AND OUR FOOD. IT HAS PROVIDED US WITH NO REPLACEMENTS FOR ANY OF THESE.

GOVERNMENTS HAVE SAID THAT WE SHOULD CHANGE - BECOME FARMERS, TRADESMEN OR OFFICE WORKERS. BUT TO US THESE ARE NOT SIMPLY SUGGESTIONS OF NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES, HOWEVER UNREALISTIC. THEY CARRY WITH THEM FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN LIFESTYLES WHICH OUR PEOPLE DO NOT WANT.

HENCE THE CRUEL DILEMA CREATED FOR US BY MERCURY. OUR TRADITIONAL WAYS AND HABITUAL PATTERNS APPEAR NO LONGER AVAILABLE. GOVERNMENTS SUGGEST NEW WAYS WHICH INVOLVE WRENCHING AND UNACCEPTABLE CHANGES TO US. THERE ARE OTHER ALTERNATIVES. THERE MUST BE OTHER WAYS. WAYS THAT WE WOULD SEEK TO EXPLORE WITH YOU. IF THEY ARE NOT FOUND, THE DECAY WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN AROUND YOU WILL CONTINUE, LIKE A STONE ROLLING DOWN A HILL.. THE VIOLENCE OF WHICH YOU HAVE HEARD WILL INCREASE. AND ALL THIS BECAUSE OF MERCURY - MERCURY WHICH IS NOW INDELIBLY IN OUR RIVER SYSTEM AND WHICH WE ARE TOLD WILL BE THERE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS TO COME.

WE CAN AND WE MUST FIND WAYS OUT OF THIS TERRIBLE DILEMA - BETTER WAYS FOR OUR FUTURE.

HISTORICAL EXPLANATIONS

MUCH CAN BE SAID ABOUT THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATIONS FOR THE PRESENT CONDITIONS ABOUT WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD ON OUR TWO RESERVES,

MANY QUESTIONS CAN BE ASKED OF THE COMPANIES FROM WHICH THE MERCURY CAME:

WHY DID THEIR USE OF MERCURY GO ON SO LONG, LONG AFTER EVERYONE WAS AWARE OF ITS LETHAL DANGERS?

WERE THE COMPANIES AWARE RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING OF THESE DANGERS AND IF SO WHY WERE THEY PERMITTED TO USE MERCURY?

IF THE COMPANIES DID NOT KNOW OF THE DANGERS OF MERCURY HOW WAS THIS POSSIBLE IN LIGHT OF WELL-KNOWN SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT MERCURY POISONING?

HOW IS IT THAT INDUSTRY CAN OPERATE WITHOUT ANY EFFECTIVE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION?

ONCE DAMAGE IS DISCOVERED, WHY IS IT THAT INDUSTRY CAN CONTINUE TO AVOID ANY OBLIGATION TO MINIMIZE FURTHER DAMAGE OR CURTAIL EXISTING DAMAGE?

MANY QUESTIONS CAN BE ASKED TOO OF GOVERNMENT:

WHY DID IT PERMIT MERCURY TO BE USED INDUSTRIALLY WHEN SCIENCE HAS KNOWN FOR MANY YEARS OF ITS DANGERS?

WHY AFTER WIDESPREAD UNDERSTANDING OF THESE DANGERS DID GOVERNMENT NOT ACT DECISIVELY TO CURTAIL THE USE OF MERCURY?

IN REGULATING THE EFFECTS OF MERCURY, WHY HAS GOVERNMENT BEEN SO OBLIVIOUS TO THE VIEWS AND WISHES OF THE PEOPLE MOST EFFECTED, NAMELY OUR BAND MEMBERS?

IN DISCUSSING THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THIS DISASTER, HOW IS IT THAT THE TWO LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL HAVE SO SUCCESSFULLY MANAGED TO PASS THE BUCK TO EACH OTHER IN AN ATTEMPT BY EACH TO AVOID RESPONSIBILITY?

QUESTIONS CAN BE ASKED TOO ABOUT THE ROLE OR LACK THEREOF PLAYED BY OUR BANDS:

HOW IS IT THAT COMMERCIAL FISHING COULD HAVE BEEN CUT OFF WITHOUT ANY REAL CONSULTATION WITH US?

WHY IS IT THAT OUR VIEWS ABOUT CLOSING THE RIVER SYSTEM CAN FIND NO EAR IN GOVERNMENT?

HOW IS IT THAT THE MEDICAL TESTING TO WHICH WE ARE SUBJECTED TIME AND TIME AGAIN IS CONDUCTED WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH US AND WITHOUT ANY RELEASE TO US OF THE DATA WHICH IS GATHERED?

MR. COMMISSIONER, YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DESIGN OF THE PROCESSES WHICH WILL GOVERN THE LIVES OF OUR BAND MEMBERS AND INDEED OF ALL NORTHERNERS OVER THE DECADES TO COME. THESE PROCESSES OF DECISION MAKING MUST BE BETTER THAN THOSE TO WHICH WE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED IN THE PAST. By

ADDRESSING THE QUESTIONS WE HAVE POSED (AND THERE ARE UNDOUBTEDLY OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE ADDRESSED AS WELL) WE WOULD HOPE TO SPOTLIGHT FOR YOU THE PROCESSES OF DECISION MAKING, WITH ALL THEIR FLAWS, WHICH HAVE LED US TO THE TERRIBLE TRAGEDY WITH WHICH WE LIVE TODAY. FROM THESE HARD LESSONS WE WOULD HOPE TO SHOW YOU THE MISTAKES TO BE AVOIDED IN THE FUTURE AND THE WAYS IN WHICH BETTER DECISION MAKING PROCESSES CAN BE STRUCTURED FOR OUR PEOPLE AND INDEED FOR ALL NORTHERNERS.

PRESENT BATTLES

THE STORY OF MERCURY POISONING DOES NOT STOP WITH THE PRESENT CONDITIONS ON OUR RESERVES AND THE HISTORICAL EXPLANATION FOR THOSE CONDITIONS. WE MUST TELL YOU AS WELL ABOUT THE PRESENT BATTLES WE ARE FIGHTING DUE TO THIS SCOURGE.

FIRST AND FOREMOST IS OUR CAMPAIGN TO CLOSE THE RIVER SYSTEM. ONLY IF ALL FISHING ON THE RIVER SYSTEM IS STOPPED WILL OUR PEOPLE BE FINALLY FREE OF THE THREAT OF FURTHER MERCURY POISONING. WE HAVE CARRIED OUR CAMPAIGN TO EVERY AUDIENCE WE CAN THINK OF. WE HAVE TALKED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, JOINT COMMITTEES, THE MEDIA, AND SO ON. NO ONE WILL SIT DOWN AND REASON TOGETHER WITH US OVER THIS ISSUE. WE ARE MET CONSTANTLY WITH A PASSING OF RESPONSIBILITY TO SOMEONE ELSE. NO ONE CLAIMS TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SHUT THE RIVER SYSTEM DOWN AND THE WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS WITH US WHETHER THIS SHOULD BE DONE.

ONCE AGAIN, WE WISH TO TELL YOU OUR STORY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE MOST GRAPHIC INDICATION POSSIBLE OF THE KIND OF DECISION MAKING PROCESS TO WHICH WE ARE SUBJECTED. IT WILL NOT DO. THERE ARE BETTER WAYS AND WE MUST HAVE THEM.

SECOND IN IMPORTANCE IS OUR BATTLE OVER MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION. JUST THIS WEEK WE WERE FACED WITH APPARENT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MERCURY POISONING OF OUR PEOPLE. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR APPEARS TO HAVE A REPORT AND STUDIES DOCUMENTING THE CONDITION OF OUR PEOPLE. YET WE CANNOT GET ACCESS TO THEM. THE AUTHOR OF THE DRAFT STUDY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SENT ON A LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

THE FRUSTRATIONS OF DEALING WITH THIS KIND OF PROCESS STRETCH OUR TOLERANCE AND OUR REASONABLENESS BEYOND THE BREAKING POINT. SOMETHING MUST BE DONE. CHANGES MUST BE MADE.

WE ASK YOU MR. COMMISSIONER, TO HEAR THESE STORIES IN ORDER TO GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF THESE SORTS OF PROCESSES. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL AGREE WITH US THAT THEY ARE UNACCEPTABLE. WE ARE CONFIDENT AS WELL THAT THEY WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH SUFFICIENT LESSONS ABOUT THE MISTAKEN WAYS OF THE PRESENT TO PERMIT FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE BETTER WAYS POSSIBLE FOR THE FUTURE.

THE FUTURE

WE HAVE TRIED TO SHOW YOU THAT THE TRAGIC STORY OF MERCURY POISONING PROVIDES A GRAPHIC CASE STUDY OF THE DECISION MAKING PROCESSES WHICH HAVE EXISTED IN THE NORTH IN THE PAST. FROM SUCH A STUDY MANY LESSONS CAN BE DRAWN FOR THE FUTURE.

IN THIS SENSE, OUR STORY IS, WE THINK, ONE OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO YOUR INQUIRY AND ONE FROM WHICH LESSONS CAN BE DRAWN ACROSS NORTHERN ONTARIO.

WE HAVE MUCH TO SAY TO YOU ABOUT THE KINDS OF PROCESSES THAT ARE NEEDED. FUNDAMENTALLY, WE MUST BE MASTERS IN OUR OWN HOUSE IN A WAY THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN IN THE PAST. DECISIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND DECISIONS OF INDUSTRY, MADE ENTIRELY WITHOUT OUR PARTICIPATION, HAVE CAUSED US THIS IMMENSE TRAGEDY IN THE PAST. THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS MUST NOT CONTINUE.

MORE THAN THAT HOWEVER, AND APART FROM PROCESSES, WE HAVE MUCH TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE WE SEE FOR OUR PEOPLE. WE WISH TO THINK TOGETHER WITH YOU ABOUT THE LIFESTYLES WE WISH TO PURSUE. WE ARE NOT WILLING TO MOVE FROM THE WAYS WITH WHICH WE ARE COMFORTABLE. YET THESE WAYS HAVE BEEN DISASTROUSLY DAMAGED BY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. WE WISH TO EXPLORE WITH YOU HOW THIS CONFLICT CAN BE RESOLVED. IT WILL NOT BE EASY. IT WILL NOT COME QUICKLY. IT WILL REQUIRE MUCH CONCENTRATED THOUGHT BY ALL OF US. YET IT MUST BE DONE. OUR FUTURE IS TOO IMPORTANT FOR IT NOT TO BE DONE.

PROCEDURES

MR. COMMISSIONER, YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO CONDUCT AN HISTORIC INQUIRY. YOUR MANDATE IS WITHOUT PARALLEL IN THE HISTORY OF THIS PROVINCE IN ITS BREADTH. SITTING AS A SINGLE COMMISSIONER, YOU HAVE THE TREMENDOUS ADVANTAGE OF BEING FREE - BEING FREE TO CONDUCT YOUR OWN PROCESSES, BEING FREE TO DETERMINE YOUR OWN LOGISTICS, BEING FREE TO MAKE YOUR OWN DECISIONS. YOURS IS NOT A COMMISSION STAFFED WITH NOMINEES WHERE INTERNAL COMPROMISE INEVITABLY LEADS TO DECISIONS OF THE MOST TIMID KIND. POLITICAL COMPROMISES MUST BE MADE IN THE ARENA WHERE THEY BELONG - THE POLITICAL ARENA. YOU HAVE THE IMMENSE ADVANTAGE OF BEING A TRULY INDEPENDENT COMMISSION. FOR THAT WE ARE GRATEFUL.

YOUR COMMISSION ALSO PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR NORTHERNERS, INDIVIDUALLY AND THROUGH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO TELL THEIR STORIES TO YOU. FOR THIS PURPOSE, YOUR PROCEDURES MUST ENSURE THAT THE PARTICIPANTS REMAIN IN CONTROL OF THEIR PRESENTATIONS. THIS REQUIRES THAT THE COMMISSION PROVIDE FULL OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO PRESENT ITS CASE AS IT SEES FIT. WE FEEL THIS MEANS THE COMMISSION ITSELF SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN THE PRESENTATION OF A CASE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THE COMMISSION THROUGH ITS STAFF CANNOT PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE HEARINGS. WE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO THIS. BUT THAT ROLE SHOULD BE REACTIVE RATHER THAN INITIATING.

AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT TO ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION IS THE PROVISION OF PROPER FUNDING TO PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS. THE PRECEDENCE SET BY THE BERGER COMMISSION, THE LYSYK COMMISSION, THE PORTER COMMISSION AND THIS COMMISSION IN ITS PRELIMINARY HEARINGS MUST BE CONTINUED. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT FUNDING AT A

PROPER LEVEL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE HEARING PROCESS. WE HEAR MUCH TODAY ABOUT THE ERA OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING RESTRAINT. NEVERTHELESS IT NEEDS TO BE SAID THAT A COMMISSION SUCH AS YOURS, IF NOT PROPERLY FUNDED, OUGHT NOT TO BE DONE AT ALL. IF PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS CANNOT BE FUNDED SATISFACTORILY IT IS BETTER TO STOP THE PROCESS THAN TO CONTINUE. AN ILL-FUNDED PUBLIC INQUIRY GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF PARTICIPATION WITHOUT THE REALITY. THE RESULT IS A SIMPLE POLITICAL CAMOUFLAGE.

IN ADDITION, WE FEEL THAT WHEN YOUR MAIN HEARINGS COMMENCE THEY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. TO BEGIN WITH, HEARINGS CHARACTERIZED BY THE KIND OF INFORMALITY WE HAVE HAD TODAY ARE ESSENTIAL. ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE BE ADEQUATELY EXPRESSED AND UNDERSTOOD. THESE COMMUNITY HEARINGS MUST BE AT THE HEART OF YOUR HEARING PROCESS. THEIR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON AN ABSENCE OF RULES, REGULATIONS AND LAWYERS. PEOPLE MUST BE PERMITTED TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES ALBEIT UNDER OATH, AS THEY WISH AND IN THEIR OWN TIME. COMMUNITIES MUST BE GIVEN THE TIME NECESSARY TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR SUCH HEARINGS.

FORMAL HEARINGS WILL OF COURSE BE NECESSARY AS WELL. THEIR EXAMINATION AND CROSS-EXAMINATION WOULD BE THE ORDER OF THE DAY. ALL MAJOR PARTICIPANTS WHO PLAY A REGULAR ROLE IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION WOULD HAVE RIGHTS OF EXAMINATION AND CROSS-EXAMINATION. THIS OF COURSE WOULD INCLUDE THE STAFF OF THE COMMISSION THROUGH COMMISSION COUNSEL. WE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO THESE FORMAL HEARINGS BEING CONDUCTED IN THE SAME TIME FRAME AS THE COMMUNITY HEARINGS SO THAT NEITHER GETS UNDUE PREFERENCE IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

FINALLY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR COMMISSION TAKE ITS WORK TO SOUTHERN ONTARIO. WITH YOUR MANDATE, THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR WORK TO SOUTHERN ONTARIO IS MANIFEST. YOU MUST GIVE PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES ON THE ISSUES WITH WHICH YOU WILL BE GRAPPLING. HEARINGS IN THE SOUTH WOULD HAVE TO BE RUN LIKE TOWN HALL MEETINGS. AGAIN EXAMINATIONS, CROSS-EXAMINATIONS AND LAWYERS WOULD BE THE EXCEPTION NOT THE RULE.

OPENNESS MUST BE A HALLMARK OF YOUR WORK. THIS MEANS THAT PUBLICITY FOR YOUR ENDEAVOURS MUST BE ACTIVELY PURSUED, PARTICULARLY IN THE NORTH. EVERY OPPORTUNITY MUST BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO HAVE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE AWARENESS OF WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND THE ISSUES THAT ARE BEING GRAPPILED WITH.

ANOTHER ASPECT OF OPENNESS IS THE NEED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN YOUR PROCESS TO REVEAL THE ENTIRETY OF THEIR INFORMATION RELEVANT TO YOUR WORK. IN PARTICULAR, ALL DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT MUST BE PUT TO THE TASK OF REVEALING TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN YOUR PROCESS THE INFORMATION IN THEIR POSSESSION THAT RELATES TO THE ISSUES THAT YOU DEAL WITH. THE SAME MUST BE REQUIRED OF ALL OTHER INTERESTS BEFORE YOUR COMMISSION INCLUDING CORPORATE INTERESTS. THIS DISCLOSURE MUST COME AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF YOUR MAIN HEARINGS. IT IS INADEQUATE FOR IT TO COME ANY LATER. THROUGHOUT YOUR HEARINGS, PARTICULARLY GOVERNMENTS BOTH FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL MUST BE LED TO CO-OPERATE FULLY WITH YOUR WORK. THEIR EMPLOYEES MUST BE MADE FREE TO DISCUSS THEIR RESEARCH AND THEIR OPINIONS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE FULLEST DISCUSSION BEFORE YOU OF ALL THE ISSUES.

ONE FINAL ASPECT OF OPENNESS RELATES TO THE STAFF OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS WORK. UNDOUBTEDLY YOU HAVE ACQUIRED AND WILL CONTINUE TO ACQUIRE AN ABLE STAFF. THEY WILL HAVE MANY IDEAS CONCERNING THE COURSE OF YOUR WORK AND ITS ULTIMATE RESULT. INSOFAR AS THESE IDEAS RELATE TO MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE WE FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THEY SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO YOU OPENLY AND IN A FORM WHERE COMMENT CAN BE MADE UPON THEM BY ALL MAJOR PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN AN ONGOING WAY IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

IN SUMMARY THEREFORE WE FEEL THAT FAIRNESS, INFORMALITY AND OPENNESS SHOULD BE THE HALLMARKS OF YOUR PROCEDURES. WE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING WITH YOU AND YOUR STAFF IN THE WORKING OUT OF THE DETAILS OF PROCEDURE TO MANIFEST THESE PRINCIPLES.

CONCLUSIONS

WE HAVE TRIED TO INDICATE TO YOU THE MANY REASONS WHY WHEN YOUR COMMISSION BEGINS ITS MAIN HEARINGS, YOU SHOULD HEAR IN DETAIL THE STORY OF MERCURY POISONING ON OUR RESERVES.

IT IS A STORY OF REAL HUMAN SUFFERING. WHEN YOU HAVE SAID THAT YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THOSE THINGS WHICH AFFECT PEOPLE, WE HAVE FELT HOPE. OUR STORY IS A GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION OF SUCH A THING.

MOREOVER, MERCURY POISONING ON THE ENGLISH-WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM WAS A CENTRAL PART OF THE CONTEXT THAT GAVE BIRTH TO YOUR COMMISSION. IT IS BY FAR THE BEST KNOWN EXAMPLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE NORTH OF THE 50TH PARALLEL. WE FEEL IT WOULD DISAPPOINT MANY EXPECTATIONS BEYOND OUR OWN IF THE COMMISSION CHOSE NOT TO CONSIDER OUR STORY.

AS WE HAVE TRIED TO SHOW, OUR STORY WOULD PROVIDE A GRAPHIC CASE STUDY OF THE INTERACTION BETWEEN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND OUR MORE TRADITIONAL WAYS. IT WILL ALSO DEMONSTRATE THE PROCESSES THAT HAVE BEEN USED IN THE PAST TO PLAN AND CARRY OUT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO REGULATE SUCH DEVELOPMENT - IT WILL SHOW THIS TOGETHER WITH THE DISASTROUS RESULTS THAT HAVE ENSUED. LESSONS MUST BE LEARNED FROM PAST MISTAKES.

OUR STORY PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THE METHODS THAT SHOULD BE USED IN THE FUTURE TO MAKE DECISIONS CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF MAJOR ENTERPRISES AND TO ASSESS AND EVALUATE SUCH ENTERPRISES. ONLY IF WE LEARN

HOW THINGS HAVE BEEN DONE IN THE PAST AND ARE DONE IN THE PRESENT CAN THE FUTURE BE CHARTED. AND IT IS JUST THIS FUTURE THAT YOUR TERMS OF REFERENCE REQUIRE YOU TO DEAL WITH.

OUR STORY WILL NOT ALWAYS BE PLEASANT. MOST OF IT IS TRAGIC. IT MAY NOT BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER. HOWEVER WE URGE YOU, MR. COMMISSIONER, NOT TO TURN AWAY FROM OUR STORY FOR THIS REASON. DEEPLY FELT DIVISIONS EXIST IN THE NORTH TODAY. FOR YOUR COMMISSION TO HEAR ABOUT THESE DIVISIONS AND THE FACTS ON WHICH THEY ARE BASED WILL NOT MAKE THESE DIVISIONS WORSE. EQUALLY, IF YOUR COMMISSION WERE TO DISBAND TOMORROW THESE DIVISIONS WOULD NOT GO AWAY. UNPLEASANT TRUTHS MUST BE FACED. TO IGNORE THEM IS TO DELUDE OURSELVES AND EVERYONE ELSE. ONLY BY A FULL COMPREHENSION OF THESE DIVISIONS AND THE FACTS ON WHICH THEY ARE BASED CAN UNDERSTANDING AND PERHAPS EVEN ACCOMODATION BEGIN. THE DIVISIONS IN THE NORTH INDEED THE DIVISIONS RELATING TO MERCURY ARE SHARP AND EVEN BITTER. WE WISH TO FACE THESE DIVISIONS HONESTLY AND OPENLY. WE ARE CONFIDENT, MR. COMMISSIONER, THAT YOUR APPROACH WILL BE THE SAME.

LET US CONCLUDE THEREFORE BY URGING YOU TO ADDRLSS THE STORY OF MERCURY POISONING ON THE ENGLISH-WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM WHEN YOUR MAIN HEARINGS COMMENCE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY OF WORKING WITH YOU AND OF WELCOMING YOU BACK FOR A LONGER STAY AMONG US.

Mr. Commissioner I would like to file one more piece of evidence for your consideration. This evidence was not available to us when we originally composed our mercury presentation. It has just recently come into our possession.

Last month, Doctor John Pritchard of the University of Toronto and the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children filed his latest report to Health and Welfare Canada. The federal health department has hired him to conduct ongoing neurological examinations in our communities.

Doctor Pritchard's findings were not comforting. His findings were particularly upsetting for one of our band members. This is what Doctor Pritchard said of his condition:

"When I saw him in 1976, he had definite tremor which was abnormal for a person his age. He told me about a recent event in his life that was the probable cause. His tremor on this occasion is or no better and he tells me that the previous circumstances do not apply. This makes the possibility of the tremor being caused by methyl mercury somewhat greater—perhaps 2 out of a scale of 0-3."

Dr. Pritchard is continuing his examinations in order to determine exactly how many more of our people have been stricken with mercury poisoning.

Mr. Commissioner, hardly a month goes by without a startling piece of medical evidence such as this being made public. Month after month the original assessment of the Japanese experts that Whitedog and Grassymilkarrows are mercury disaster areas is confirmed.

The federal and provincial governments and their health departments have consistently attempted to belittle our mercury problems to the public. They have ignored their own reports which say the poisoned river system should be closed down; they've ignored the testimony of experts that state mercury has bludgeoned the social, economic and physical health of my people.

We ask you, Mr. Commissioner, not to make the same mistake. Do not ignore the mercury issue in Northwestern Ontario when you conduct your further hearings.

CAZDN

ZI

- 77N22

SUBMISSION TO
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

BY

ISLINGTON BAND (WHITE DOG RESERVE)

PRESENTED AT

WHITEDOG RESERVE

ON

JANUARY 18, 1978



ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE
E. P. HARTT
COMMISSIONER

SUBMISSION TO

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTBYISLINGTON BAND
(White Dog Reserve)PRESENTED AT

Whitedog Reserve

on

January 18, 1978

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE NORTHERN
ENVIRONMENT
416/965-9286

MANULIFE CENTRE
55 BLOOR STREET WEST
ROOM 801
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4W 1A5

No. 277

Royal Commission on the
Northern Environment

This exhibit is produced by

Whitedog Reserve

this 18 day of Jan 1978

Squawman

ISLINGTON BAND (WHITE DOG RESERVE)

PRESENTATION TO THE

ROYAL COMMISSION ON

THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENT

DECEMBER 1977



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- (1) SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND RESULTING LOSSES TO WHITE DOG
- (2) DETAILS OF LOSSES
 - (A) ONE MAN LAKE FLOODING
 - (B) FLOODING OF WILD RICE AREAS
 - (C) INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION - MERCURY AND THE RESULTING LOSSES,
- (3) PROVINCIAL RESPONSES TO WHITE DOG REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.
- (4) REED LIMITED - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES
- (5) RECOMMENDATIONS

WHITE DOG RESERVE:

WHITE DOG IS THE RESERVE OF THE ISLINGTON BAND; A BAND OF OJIBWAY PEOPLE.

BAND MEMBERSHIP TODAY TOTALS ABOUT 740 PEOPLE, OF WHICH APPROXIMATELY 550 ARE ACTUALLY RESIDENT ON THE RESERVE.

THE COMMUNITY IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 65 MILES NORTHWEST OF KENORA, ONLY A FEW MILES FROM THE MANITOBA BORDER, AT THE JUNCTION OF THE ENGLISH RIVER FLOWING FROM LAC SEUL ONTARIO, AND THE WINNIPEG RIVER FLOWING FROM LAKE OF THE WOODS.

HISTORICALLY THE TWO RIVERS WERE VITAL WATERWAYS IN THE FUR TRADE FROM THE WEST.

UNTIL THE LATE 1950'S THERE WERE TWO COMMUNITIES AT WHITE DOG; THE COMMUNITY OF WHITE DOG ITSELF, AND A SECOND COMMUNITY AT ONE MAN LAKE. UNTIL THE LATE FIFTIES, THE COMMUNITIES HAD NO ROAD ACCESS WITH KENORA.

TRAPPING, WILD RICE HARVESTING, HUNTING AND FISHING WERE THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES AT WHITE DOG.

THE COMMUNITY HAD FEW SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES.

WHITE DOG AND THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT

THE BACKGROUND:

ON MARCH 7, 1977, NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THE DEATHS OF FIVE INDIANS FROM THE WHITE DOG RESERVE, 65 MILES NORTHWEST OF KENORA, AS THE RESULT OF CONSUMPTION OF ANTI-FREEZE.

INDEED, A SIMILAR INCIDENT IN WHICH FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GRASSY NARROWS BAND DIED, TOOK PLACE IN 1975.

WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS ARE TWO INDIAN COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE SUFFERED SEVERE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BREAKDOWN BECAUSE OF THE EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION IN THE ENGLISH WABIGOON SYSTEM, ON WHICH THEY HAVE DEPENDED FOR FOOD, EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME FOR YEARS.

SIMILARILY, HYDRO PROJECTS ON THE RIVER SYSTEM HAVE COMPOUNDED THE DISLOCATION.

KENORA, ONTARIO, HAS FOR YEARS BEEN THE FOCAL POINT OF RACIAL DIFFICULTIES; DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE ECONOMIC BREAKDOWN OF THESE COMMUNITIES NEARBY.

TODAY, THE ALCOHOLICS ON THE STREETS OF KENORA WHICH

SO MUCH HARD FEELING IN THAT TOWN ARE IN LARGE PART
RESIDENTS OF WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS; PEOPLE WHOSE
LIVES HAVE BEEN SO DISRUPTED BY THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC
BREAKDOWN AND LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT, THAT ALCOHOL HAS TAKEN
OVER THEIR LIVES.

FOLLOWING, IS A SUMMARY OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS AND DECISIONS, AS WELL AS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS WHICH IN COMBINATION HAVE VIRTUALLY DESTROYED THE COMMUNITIES OF WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS:

UNEMPLOYMENT, CHRONIC ALCOHOLISM, VIOLENCE AND WELFARE HAVE REPLACED THE FORMER WAY OF LIFE.

IN READING THESE DETAILS, THE READER SHOULD CONTINUALLY REMIND HIMSELF OR HERSELF THAT THE PROVINCIAL POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THESE RESERVES IS MOST FREQUENTLY EXPRESSED IN THE STATEMENT, "INDIANS ARE A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON RESERVES IS A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY."

THE PURPOSE OF THIS OUTLINE IS SIMPLY TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO DETERMINE IN THEIR OWN MINDS, IF IT IS MORALLY ACCEPTABLE FOR MINISTERS OF THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO TAKE THIS POSITION; OR WHETHER IN FACT THE PROVINCE ACTUALLY DOES HAVE A SIGNIFICANT RESPONSIBILITY IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION OF THESE COMMUNITIES.

FLOODING OF THE
ONE-MAN-LAKE COMMUNITY

IN 1954, ONTARIO HYDRO BEGAN CONSTRUCTION OF A MASSIVE HYDRO DAM AT WHITE DOG FALLS.

IN 1957, WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT, WATER LEVELS WERE RAISED DRAMATICALLY AND APPROXIMATELY 15 FAMILIES, PERMANENTLY RESIDENT IN HAND-BUILT LOG HOMES, WERE FORCED TO MOVE TO THE OTHER COMMUNITY ON THE RESERVE AT WHITE DOG. THE OLD HOMES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FLOODED BY HYDRO.

WHILE REPLACEMENT ACCOMMODATION WAS PROVIDED BY HYDRO, IT WAS COLD AND INADEQUATE WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SOLID LOG HOMES.

THE CONCENTRATION OF FAMILIES IN THE ONE NEW LOCATION, THE DISORIENTATION AND DISRUPTION, TOGETHER WITH THE LOSS OF TRAPPING AREAS AND WILD RICE AREAS, BEGAN THE PROCESS OF DISRUPTION AND SOCIAL BREAKDOWN.

NO COMPENSATION FOR THE FLOODED ACREAGE, EITHER IN TERMS OF DOLLARS OR ALTERNATE LAND, HAS EVER BEEN PROVIDED BY ONTARIO TO THE BAND.

SIMILARILY, NO COMPENSATION HAS EVER BEEN PAID FOR THE
LITERALLY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF RICE THAT HAS BEEN
DESTROYED BY HYDRO RELEASES OR LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL
BOARD POLICIES.

IN FACT, WHILE THE DAM WAS GENERATING HYDRO-ELECTRICITY TO SOUTHERN NON-INDIAN COMMUNITIES, IT WAS NOT UNTIL 1968, ELEVEN YEARS LATER, THAT POWER WAS DIRECTED TO THE RESERVE COMMUNITY.

IN LIGHT OF THE IMPACT OF THIS ONTARIO HYDRO PROJECT, HOW CAN THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO CLAIM THAT "INDIANS ON RESERVE ARE A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY"?

WILD RICE AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

WILD RICE IS A NATURAL RESOURCE THAT, UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS, GROWS IN ABUNDANCE IN THE WHITE DOG AREA OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CROP IS DETERMINED TO A LARGE EXTENT BY THE WATER LEVELS. WATER LEVELS ARE DETERMINED BY RELEASES FROM ONTARIO HYDRO'S WHITE DOG FALLS DAM, AS AUTHORIZED BY LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD.

THE FOLLOWING ARE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES STATISTICS OF HARVESTS IN THE WHITE DOG REGION:

TABLE NO. 1

WILD RICE HARVEST - WHITE DOG - ISLINGTON BAND

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POUNDS OF WILD RICE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POUNDS OF WILD RICE</u>
1963	1,393	1970	4,908
1964	6,471	1971	14,454
1965	N/A	1972	154,834
1966	N/A	1973	187,472
1967	358	1974	1,669
1968	26,713	1975	NIL
1969	7,468	1976	200,000*
		1977	200,000*

*BAND ESTIMATES

ASSUMING AN AVERAGE PRICE OF \$1.40 PER LB., THE 1977 HARVEST WOULD GENERATE UP TO \$280,000 OF INCOME TO BAND RESIDENTS.

THE 1975 HARVEST, BECAUSE OF WATER LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS, OF COURSE CREATED NO INCOME.

AS THE ADAMSON 1975-MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT STATED, "PART OF THE REASON FOR THIS WIDE VARIATION (IN ANNUAL HARVESTS) IS THE EFFECT OF WATER LEVELS IN THE WINNIPEG RIVER, WHICH IN TURN CONTROLS WATER LEVELS AT WHITE DOG LAKE. THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STABLE RICE INDUSTRY FOR THE WHITE DOG BAND DEPENDS ON THE ABILITY TO MAINTAIN RELATIVELY CONSTANT WATER LEVELS IN WHITE DOG LAKE BETWEEN THE MONTHS OF MAY AND SEPTEMBER.

THE SAME REPORT STATES:

"THE BEST YEARS FOR THE WILD RICE HARVEST WERE 1972 AND 1973 WHEN MINIMUM WATER LEVELS ON THE WINNIPEG RIVER WERE BELLOW ELEVATION 985 DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS".

"IN THIS AREA, THE WINNIPEG FLUCTUATES EACH YEAR AND WATER LEVELS CAN VARY BY UP TO 13 FEET, DEPENDING UPON THE DISCHARGE FROM THE WHITE DOG AND CARIBOU HYDRO GENERATING STATIONS."

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR THE WATER CONTROL MECHANISMS,
WHITE DOG IN THE LATE 1950'S CONSTRUCTED A PLYWOOD AND
EARTH DAM TO PROTECT WHITE DOG LAKE FROM HYDRO RELEASES.
THIS DAM WAS DESTROYED SUBSEQUENTLY BY THESE RELEASES.

IN 1967, THE DAM WAS RECONSTRUCTED WITH FUNDS FROM THE
BAND AND LANDS AND FORESTS. HOWEVER, THE DAM LEAKED
BADLY AND NOMINAL CROPS WERE OBTAINED.

IN 1972 (154,834 LBS.) AND 1973 (187,472 LBS.) WATER LEVELS
WERE ABNORMALLY LOW AND SIGNIFICANT HARVESTS RESULTED.

IN 1974, A MASSIVE HYDRO RELEASE, IN CONNECTION WITH LAKE
OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD POLICY, ROSE ONE AND ONE HALF FEET
ABOVE THE PROTECTIVE DAM, WASHING THE DAM ITSELF AWAY AND
DESTROYING THE RICE CROP.

THE CROPS IN 1974 AND 1975 ILLUSTRATE THE RESULTS:

1974 - 1,669 LBS.

1975 - NIL LBS.

IN 1976 AND 1977, DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NORTHWESTERN
ONTARIO PRODUCED UNUSUALLY LOW WATER LEVELS, ENABLING
MASSIVE CROPS TO GROW AT WHITE DOG WITHOUT DISRUPTION FROM
CONTROL BOARD RELEASES.

1974 HARVEST ~ 200,000 (+) LBS

1975 HARVEST ~ 200,000 (+) LBS

THE 1976 AND 1977 HARVESTS AT AVERAGE PRICES OF 80¢ (1976)
AND \$1.25 TO \$1.50 (1977) GENERATED UPWARDS OF \$440,000
OF INCOME TO BAND RESIDENTS.

THE ISLINGTON BAND (WHITE DOG) HAS LONG RECOGNIZED THE
POTENTIAL FOR EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME FROM WILD RICE.

FOLLOWING, WE DOCUMENT WHITE DOG REQUESTS FOR TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING CONTROL SYSTEMS ON THEIR RICE
AREAS, AND THE RESPONSE OF AN UNSYMPATHETIC PROVINCIAL
GOVERNMENT.

OCTOBER 31, 1975: THE FOLLOWING REQUEST WAS PRESENTED BY
WHITEDOG BAND AS WELL AS GRASSY NARROWS BAND, WHICH WAS
SIMILARILY AFFECTED BY WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATION, TO THREE
PROVINCIAL MINISTERIES - BERNIER, MILLER AND KERR:

"WILD RICE INDUSTRY"

6. THAT THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES ASSIST THE
RESIDENTS OF WHITEDOG IN DEVELOPING AN EXPANDED WILD
RICE PROGRAMS.

A. ON WHITEDOG LAKE -

THIS WOULD INVOLVE THE MINISTRY PROVIDING WHITEDOG
WITH FUNDS TO

- REPAIR THE DAM CONSTRUCTED ON WHITEDOG LAKE TO ENABLE
BAND TO USE THE LAKE FOR WILD RICE GROWING,

- PURCHASE AND INSTALL PUMPS ON THE ABOVE DAM, TO CONTROL THE WATER LEVELS DURING THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY WHICH ARE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE RICE CROP.

B. ON OTHER LAKES IN THE REGION:

THE BAND RECOGNIZES THE EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME POTENTIAL TO ITS PEOPLE THROUGH EXPANDING WILD RICE COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES. ONE BAND MEMBER FOR EXAMPLE EARNED APPROXIMATELY \$3,000 IN 30 DAY PERIOD, THROUGH WILD RICE HARVESTING THIS YEAR.

WE REQUEST THE MINISTRY ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANY OTHER LAKES IN THIS REGION FOR THE PURPOSE OF GROWING WILD RICE AND DEVELOPING EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL.

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT NATURAL RESOURCES ARE SURVEYING AND EMPLOYING ARIAL SEEDING FOR THE WHITE COMMERCIAL RICE INDUSTRY.

WILD RICE PROVIDES A) EMPLOYMENT AND B) AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE OF FOOD FOR THE INDIAN PEOPLE. "

THE PROVINCE'S RESPONSE WAS TO SEND AN ENGINEER TO THE SITE OF THE EARTH DAM IN APRIL, 1976. A REPORT WAS PREPARED AND FORWARDED TO THE BAND BY THE DISTRICT MANAGER OF THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES WITH THE COMMENT, "WE'VE DONE OUR JOB - IT'S UP TO YOU TO FIND THE FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT."

IN DECEMBER, 1976, THE RICE DAM RECONSTRUCTION WITH A PROPER STEEL GATE MECHANISM WAS COMPLETED. THE FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT WAS FEDERAL FUNDING.

NO STUDY ON THE OTHER RICE AREAS WAS COMPLETED BY THE PROVINCE, AND NO OTHER SITES WERE CONSIDERED FOR CONTROL MECHANISMS, AS THE BANDS HAD REQUESTED.

THE FACT THAT IN-DEPTH WILD RICE ENGINEERING SURVEYS WERE NEVER COMPLETED BY THE PROVINCE, IS INDICATIVE OF PROVINCIAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS WORKING WITH INDIAN PEOPLE ON WILD RICE DEVELOPMENT.

THE FOLLOWING QUOTATIONS WERE EXTRACTED FROM THE RESPONSES OF SENIOR PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE BY WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS:

- (1) A. J. HERRIDGE, ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER, RESOURCES AND RECREATION, SEPTEMBER 9, 1977. "AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, I HAVE DIFFICULTY GENERATING MORE THAN MILD ENTHUSIASM FOR THE PROJECT AT HAND. THIS IS, AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED, BASED ON THE FACT THAT THERE IS PRESENTLY A SEVERE UNDERUTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE NATURAL WILD RICE BY THE INDIAN BANDS OF THE LAKE OF THE WOODS AREA.

THIS SITUATION MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO RATIONALIZE
LARGE EXPENDITURES OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN AN ATTEMPT TO
PRODUCE EVEN MORE RICE. THIS IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL
WHEN WE HAVE NO PROOF THAT WATER LEVEL STABILIZATION
WILL BE THE KEY TO PRODUCTION IN NORMALLY POOR YEARS."

(2) A. J. HERRIDGE, ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER, RESOURCES
AND RECREATION. "ON A MORE BASIC NOTE, YOU ARE WELL
AWARE OF A DIFFERENCE IN POSITION AS BETWEEN THE INDIANS
AND THE GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO WILD RICE, ITS
OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL."

(3) LEO BERNIER, MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, NOVEMBER 12,
1976. "AS YOU HAVE POINTED OUT, THIS WAS A BUMPER
YEAR FOR RICE IN THE TREATY 3 AREA, UNDOUBTEDLY BECAUSE
BELOW AVERAGE RUN-OFF RESULTED IN LOWER LAKE LEVELS.
IT IS DISCONCERTING, HOWEVER, TO HEAR THAT THE PEOPLE
DID NOT TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE CROP. OUR LATEST
INFORMATION INDICATES THAT ONLY ABOUT 10% OF THE
AVAILABLE CROP WAS HARVESTED."

(4) HON. WM. G. DAVIES, PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE OF
ONTARIO, APRIL 5, 1977. "HOWEVER, IN THIS MATTER OF
PRODUCTION, THE MINISTRY HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED
BY THE NATIVE PEOPLES THEMSELVES AS THE VARIOUS BANDS
IN TREATY 3 ARE EITHER UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO HARVEST

MUCH OF THE CROP. FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1976, WHICH WAS A BUMPER YEAR, LESS THAN 6 PER CENT OF THE AVAILABLE RICE IN THE NORTHWESTERN REGION WAS HARVESTED. THEREFORE, YOUR DEMANDS FOR INCREASED ACREAGES OF RICE CROPS WOULD SEEM INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS POINT IN TIME."

THE HARVEST RECORD OF THE WHITE DOG BAND CLEARLY REFUTES THESE ARGUMENTS.

OBVIOUSLY IN 1975, NO CROP WAS HARVESTED AT WHITEDOG BECAUSE WATER LEVELS DESTROYED THE CROP AND NO CROP EXISTED.

IN FACT IN APPROXIMATELY 11 OF 15 YEARS ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES STATISTICS, WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS THROUGH LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD MINIMIZED CROPS TO AN AVERAGE HARVEST LEVEL OF ONLY 4,500 LBS. PER YEAR,

THE BUMPER HARVESTS ~

1972 - 154,834 LBS.

1973 - 187,472 LBS.

1976 - 200,000 (+) LBS.

1977 - 200,000 (+) LBS.

ARE AMPLE PROOF THAT THE RESIDENTS OF WHITE DOG ENTHUSIASTICALLY HARVEST IN YEARS THAT SIGNIFICANT CROPS EXIST!"

THE PROBLEM WITH RICE IS NOT THE LACK OF INTEREST OF OUR PICKERS; THE BASIC PROBLEM IS CLEARLY THE DAMAGE OF ARTIFICIAL WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS ON RICE CROPS IN 11 OF 15 YEARS.

THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AND LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD ARGUE THAT WATER LEVELS ARE NOT PROVEN DETERENTS TO RICE DEVELOPMENT.

THE EXPERTS DISAGREE:

PETER LEE (ZIZANIA WETLAND DEVELOPING AND CONSULTING CO. LTD.) ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE ONE OF NORTH AMERICA'S LEADING AUTHORITIES ON WILD RICE REPORTS:

"IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO THE ANNUAL HARVEST OF WILD RICE HAS VARIED FROM LESS THAN 20,000 POUNDS TO AS HIGH AS 1,300,000 POUNDS. THIS GREAT VARIATION IN HARVEST IS MAINLY THE RESULT OF WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS."

FURTHER, IF WE USE WATER LEVEL FIGURES PROVIDED BY LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD THEMSELVES, WE FIND THAT WHILE WATER LEVELS HAVE TYPICALLY BEEN UNSATISFACTORY FOR SIGNIFICANT RICE YIELDS, IF THE CONTROL BOARD HAD NOT ARTIFICIALLY CREATED SUCH UNSATISFACTORY LEVELS, THAT 85% OF THE TIME, IN THE PAST 11 YEARS, WATER LEVELS WOULD NATURALLY HAVE BEEN WITHIN THE RANGE REQUIRED FOR SIGNIFICANT RICE

YIELDS IN MAJOR RICING AREAS.

IN ADDITION, LEADING ONTARIO FOOD CHAINS AND SEVERAL MAJOR FOOD BROKERAGE FIRMS HAVE ADVISED WHITE DOG THAT NO SIGNIFICANT RICE INDUSTRY CAN BE DEVELOPED UNTIL HARVEST LEVELS ARE STABILIZED AND PREDICTABLE.

WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS ARE CLEARLY THE MAJOR DETERENT TO OUR RICE INDUSTRY AND WE RESENT MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES INFERENCES THROUGH RECENTLY PUBLISHED, EXAGGERATED FIGURES, THAT THE MAJOR PROBLEM WITH RICE IS THE LOW HARVESTS. THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOULD NOT HAVE COMPLAINED OF HARVESTS IN 11 OF THE PAST 15 YEARS WHEN CROPS WERE NEGIGLABLE BECAUSE OF WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS.

IN THE FALL OF 1977, THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN A PAPER, "PORPOSAL REVISIONS TO THE WILD RICE ACT", FURTHER DISCLOSES THE DIRECTION AND INTENTIONS OF FUTURE PROVINCIAL POLICY.

-THIS PAPER OPENS THE DOOR TO NON-INDIAN RICE HARVESTING.
-ALL WILD RICE MUST BE OFFERED ON A RIGHT-OF-FIRST-REFUSAL BASIS TO PROCESSORS WHOSE FACILITIES ARE LOCATED IN ONTARIO.

IS IT A COINCIDENCE THAT MAN-O-MIN, THE TREATY 3 RICE CO-OP SELLS TO U.S. BASED PROCESSORS, AND IN 1977 GRASSY NARROWS SOLD TO A MANITOBA PROCESSOR, WHILE THE MAJOR ONTARIO BASED PROCESSOR IS SHOAL LAKE WILD RICE, OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE CAMPAIGN MANAGER OF THE LOCAL M.P.P. AND CABINET MINISTER?

ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, OUR PEOPLE RECEIVED \$.20 PER LB. FOR WILD RICE; TODAY BECAUSE OF THE CO-OP AND INCREASED COMPETITION, THEY RECEIVE \$1.25 TO \$1.40 PER LB.

WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THIS RESTRICTIVE PROPOSAL.

HOW MANY ONTARIO PRODUCERS IN OTHER FIELDS ARE TOLD BY THE PORVINCE THEY MUST SELL ON A FIRST-RIGHT-OF-REFUSAL BASIS TO ONTARIO BASED FIRMS?

THE PROPOSAL TO PERMIT NON-INDIANS TO HARVEST RICE WOULD OPEN THE DOOR TO FUTURE POLICY CHANGES.

WE HAVE LOST OUR LANDS THROUGH TREATY; OUR RIVER SYSTEM HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION; OUR PRIMARY SOURCE OF FOOD - FISH - IS UNSAFE FOR CONSUMPTION; OUR COMMUNITIES AND RICE FIELDS HAVE BEEN FLOODED BY HYDRO DAMS. WE HAVE LOST ENOUGH. PLEASE HELP US RETAIN OUR RICE.

HOW CAN THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO TELL US "INDIANS
ARE A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY"?

FOOTNOTE: AWARE OF THE LACK OF PROVINCIAL RESPONSE TO OUR
REQUEST FOR AN IN-DEPTH RICE STUDY TO DETERMINE
WHERE WE CAN ERECT SMALL DAMS TO PROTECT OUR
WILD RICE CROPS, A PRIVATE STUDY HAS BEEN
FUNDED BY A GROUP OF KITCHENER BUSINESS MEN ON
OUR BEHALF.

MERCURY POLLUTION - REED PAPER CO.

AND THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT:

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF WHITE DOG BEGAN WITH THE FLOODING OF THE ONE MAN LAKE COMMUNITY BY THE ONTARIO HYDRO DAM, AND WERE REINFORCED BY THE LOSS OF RICE AND DIMINISHED TRAPPING RETURNS AS THE RESULT OF THE NEWLY CREATED HIGH WATER LEVELS, BUT THE DEVASTATING BLOW WAS YET TO COME.

DURING THE 1960'S MERCURY WAS USED IN THE DRYDEN ONTARIO PULP AND PAPER MILL OF REED LIMITED. IN THE LATE 1960'S SUSPICION AROSE AS TO THE EFFECTS OF DUMPING THIS WASTE INTO THE ENGLISH WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM ON WHICH GRASSY NARROWS AND WHITE DOG WERE LOCATED.

IN 1969, GEORGE KERR, MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLICLY STATED THAT NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM EXISTED.

THEN CAME 1970.

LOSS OF COMMERCIAL FISHING

IN 1970, THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES BANNED ALL COMMERCIAL FISHING ON THE ENGLISH WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM.

THE INDIAN PEOPLE AT WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN COMMERCIAL FISHING WERE IMMEDIATELY UNEMPLOYED.

THE RIVER SYSTEM REMAINED OPEN FOR TOURIST CAMPS AND THEIR FISHERMEN, HOWEVER.

THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO WAS RELUCTANT TO HURT TOURISM AND AS A RESULT SEVERAL YEARS WENT BY WITHOUT WARNINGS TO THE TOURISTS OF THE HAZARDS INVOLVED.

AND WHAT WERE THE MERCURY LEVELS? ON CLAY LAKE ON THE RIVER SYSTEM, THE HIGHEST LEVEL EXISTED,

THE SAFE LEVEL FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION IS .5 PPM.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT REPORTS OF 1971 MERCURY LEVELS IN CLAY LAKE WERE -

	<u>MEAN LEVEL</u>	<u>MAXIMUM LEVEL</u>	<u>MINIMUM LEVEL</u>
WALLEYE	15.74	19.6	12.5

A DOUBLE STANDARD:

WHY, WE ASK, ARE TOURIST CAMPS OPERATING AND GUESTS
FISHING AND CONSUMING FISH WHILE INDIANS SIT UNEMPLOYED
DUE TO THE PROVINCIAL BAN ON COMMERCIAL FISHING?

WHY HAD THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
ADVISED THE INDIANS IN 1975 IN LETTERS TO EACH BAND MEMBER -
"THE FISH IN THE RIVER SYSTEM AROUND YOUR RESERVE STILL
CONTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF MERCURY. THERE IS NO AMOUNT OF
FISH THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED SAFE TO EAT. YOU ARE STRONGLY
ADVISED NOT TO EAT ANY LOCAL FISH AT ALL".

THE TOURISTS EAT THE FISH - NO WARNING IS GIVEN. YET THE
PROVINCE BANS COMMERCIAL FISHING AND THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH ADVISES INDIANS TO EAT NO FISH AT ALL.

IN 1975 AND 1976, CAMP OWNERS STRONGLY OPPOSED CLOSURE OF
THE RIVER SYSTEM TO ALL FISHING. WE WERE ADVISED THAT
LEO BERNIER, THEN MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, VEHMENTLY
OPPOSED CLOSURE IN THE ONTARIO CABINET.

TOURISM AND POLITICAL CLOUT CARRIED FAR MORE WEIGHT THAN TWO
SMALL INDIAN COMMUNITIES WHICH WERE OF COURSE "A FEDERAL
RESPONSIBILITY."

MERCURY POLLUTION AND ITS SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC REPERCUSSIONS AND WHITE DOG

THE INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION OF THE RIVER SYSTEM AT WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS Affected THE COMMUNITIES IN MANY WAYS, SOME OF WHICH ARE SUMMARIZED.

(A) LOSS OF COMMERCIAL FISHING:

LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT, LOSS OF INCOME, RESULTED FOR RESIDENTS AT BOTH RESERVES BECAUSE OF THE PROVINCIAL BAN ON COMMERCIAL FISHING.

(B) LOSS OF A TRADITIONAL FOOD SOURCE:

FOR DECADES, IF NOT CENTURIES, THE INDIAN PEOPLE LIVING ON THIS RIVER SYSTEM HAD COME TO RELY ON THE ENGLISH WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM FOR A CHEAP, READILY AVAILABLE SOURCE OF HIGH PROTEIN FOOD. NOW HEALTH AUTHORITIES WARN OF THE DANGER OF FISH CONSUMPTION.

(C) GUIDING OPPORTUNITIES:

IN 1972, BARNEY LAMM, OWNER OF LAMM'S BALL LAKE LODGE DECIDED, IN THE LIGHT OF THE DANGEROUS MERCURY LEVELS, TO CLOSE HIS CAMP, THE LARGEST ON THE RIVER SYSTEM.

THIS, AND OTHER CAMP CLOSURES DRAMATICALLY REDUCED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INDIAN PEOPLE.

LAMM'S BALL LAKE CAMP ALONE PROVIDED EMPLOYMENT ANNUALLY FOR BETWEEN 120 AND 130 INDIAN PEOPLE.

EMPLOYMENT RANGED FROM GUIDING AND MAINTENANCE, TO WAITRESS AND CABIN GIRL OPPORTUNITIES.

LAMM ESTIMATED INCOME TO THOSE INDIANS EMPLOYED AT HIS LODGE IN EXCESS OF \$300,000 ANNUALLY.

NOW THOSE JOBS AND THAT INCOME ARE GONE -- ALL BECAUSE OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION.

SIMILAR STATISTICS, RELATING TO OTHER CAMPS, APPLY TO WHITE DOG.

WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS QUICKLY FELL APART AS COMMUNITIES.

VIOLENT DEATHS WERE A REGULAR OCCURRENCE; ALCOHOLISM INCREASED AND IN LATE 1975, 95% OF THE BAND MEMBERS AT BOTH RESERVES WERE UNEMPLOYED ON WELFARE.

IN 1975 IN ONE INCIDENT RELATED TO ALCOHOL, FOUR GRASSY NARROWS RESIDENTS DIED; IN 1977 FIVE WHITE DOG RESIDENTS DIED IN A SIMILAR INCIDENT. A CHIEF WAS JAILED FOR AN ALCOHOL RELATED MURDER AND THE COMMUNITIES DISINTEGRATED.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

TO THE CRISIS AT WHITE DOG:

IN OCTOBER 1975, MESSRS. BERNIER, MILLER AND KERR FLEW TO KENORA TO MEET WITH THE BANDS.

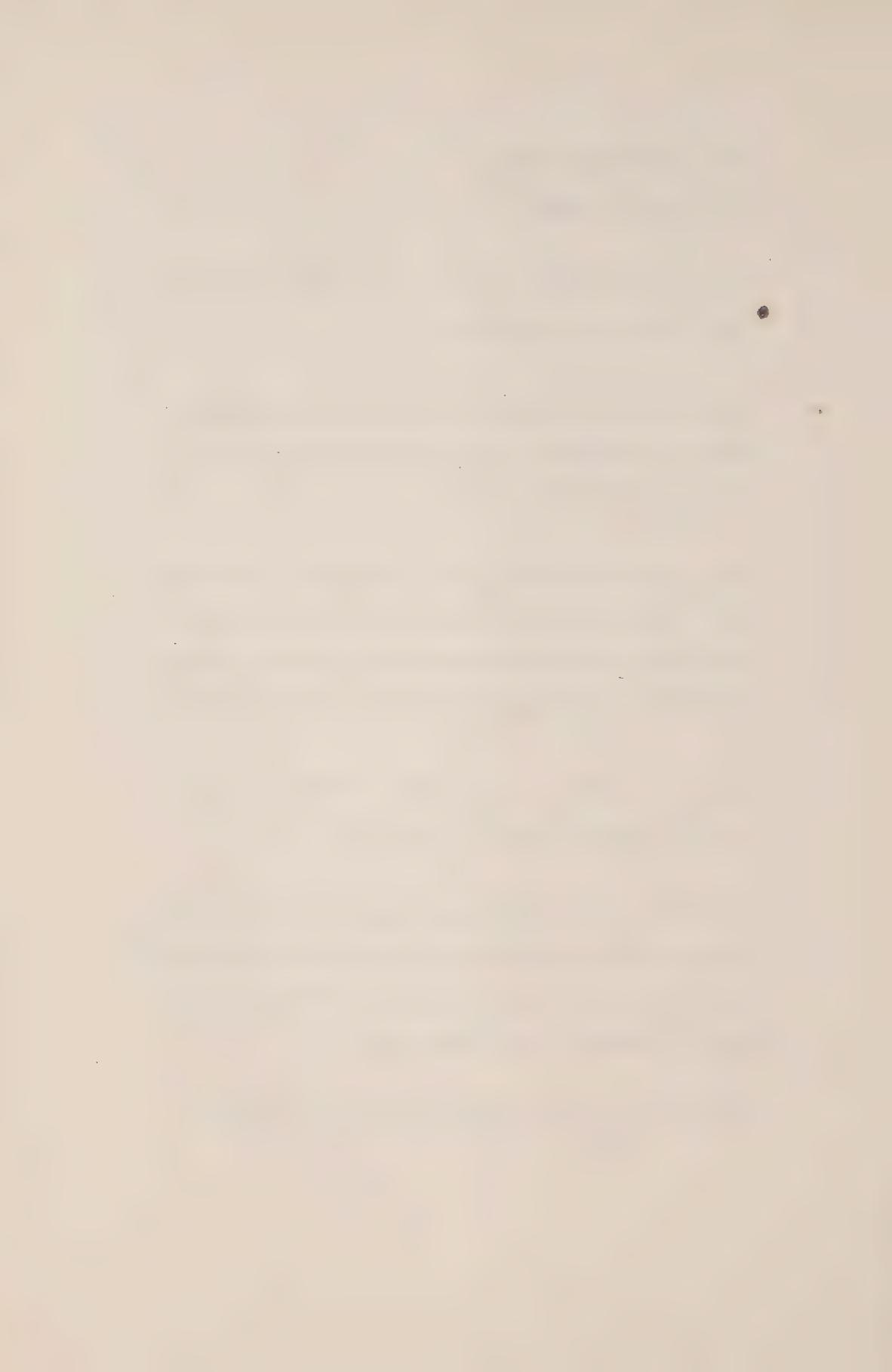
IN PREPARATION FOR THE MEETING BOTH WHITE DOG AND GRASSY NARROWS HAD PREPARED BRIEFS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN A VARIETY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC AREAS.

THESE RANGED FROM WILD RICE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (SEE WILD RICE), TRAPPING PROGRAMS, VARIOUS JOB CREATION PROJECTS TO REQUESTS FOR IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR YOUNGSTERS WHOSE FUTURE LAY IN TOTALLY DIFFERENT EMPLOYMENT DIRECTIONS.

THEY WERE IN SUMMATION, BLUE PRINTS FOR THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION OF THE COMMUNITIES.

THE MEETING ENDED WITH THE HONOURABLE LEO BERNIER ADVISING THAT THE REQUESTS RELATED TO HIS MINISTRY WOULD BE REVIEWED FOR ACTION AND THAT REQUESTS RELATING TO OTHER MINISTRIES WOULD BE FORWARDED TO THOSE MINISTRIES.

THE MINISTERS ANNOUNCED THAT A "CO-ORDINATOR" WOULD BE



APPOINTED TO DEAL WITH THE BAND REQUESTS AND SPEED UP GOVERNMENT ACTION. THE IDEA THEY ADMITTED HAD BEEN CONCEIVED BETWEEN THE PLANE'S DEPARTURE FROM TORONTO AND ITS ARRIVAL IN KENORA. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS BORE OUT THE HASTE WITH WHICH THE "CO-ORDINATOR" WAS BORN.

THE CO-ORDINATOR:

OCTOBER 31, 1975, THE CONCEPT WAS ANNOUNCED. IT WAS NOT UNTIL MID-JANUARY HOWEVER THAT THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE. IRONICALLY THE INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD BEEN DEALING WITH THE BANDS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS ALREADY, SIMPLY HAD A CHANGE OF TITLE AND ASSUMED "THE POST".

ON MARCH 15, 1976 WE WERE ADVISED OF HIS DECISION TO RESIGN AND ON APRIL 9 THE MUCH HERALDED CO-ORDINATOR WAS GONE.

HE RESIGNED IN FRUSTRATION WITH THE LACK OF CO-OPERATION FROM HIS OWN PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES. GENERALLY SPEAKING CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND MINISTRIES REFUSED TO ACCEPT HIS "SPECIAL POWERS" AND THE CONCEPT DIED.

"THIS NEW LOCAL PLAN (THE CO-ORDINATOR) WILL BE A PILOT PROJECT FOR NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO. THE LESSONS LEARNED

FROM IT COULD PROVE VALUABLE IN OTHER AREAS", (LEO BERNIER OCTOBER 31, 1975).

SUBSEQUENTLY, INDIAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT ABANDONED THE "CO-ORDINATOR" CONCEPT, AND A "COMMUNITY RESOURCE OFFICER", RESPONSIBLE TO ALL BANDS IN THE KENORA AREA WAS HIRED.

IN SEPTEMBER 1977, HE TOO RESIGNED, INDICATING THAT THE PROVINCE WAS HURTING THE RESERVES BY ITS TOKENISTIC POLICY AND INDICATED THAT THE SECRETARIAT WAS AN IRRELEVANT BODY.

THE LESSONS WERE INDEED VALUABLE; A "BAND-AID" SOLUTION, CONCEIVED IN HASTE BY MEN GENERALLY UNCONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE BANDS, WOULD NEVER WORK.

REPLIES TO THE OCTOBER 31, 1975

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE:

BY LATE FEBRUARY 1976, NO REPLIES HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PROVINCE DESPITE THE PROMISED ACTION BY BERNIER, MILLER AND KERR.

ON FEBRUARY 26, RENE BRUNELLE WAS REMINDED OF THE LACK OF RESPONSES AND ON APRIL 8 THEY WERE RECEIVED - FIVE MONTHS LATER.

WE WERE LATER ADVISED THAT THE ORIGINAL DRAFTS WERE "TOO EMBARRASSING" TO RELEASE AND THEREFORE REDRAFTED.

IT SERVES NO USEFUL PURPOSE TO REVIEW ALL THE REPLIES FOR THE DOCUMENT WAS "EMPTY".

FOR EXAMPLE -

- (A) A REQUEST BY WHITE DOG FOR CONSULTANTS TO ASSIST THE BAND IN DETERMINING VIABLE ECONOMIC PROJECTS FOR LONG TERM ECONOMIC GROWTH RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING PROVINCIAL RESPONSE - "IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON RESERVES IN A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY".
- (B) WILD RICE FEASIBILITY STUDIES - AS INDICATED UNDER "WILD RICE AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT" IT WAS NECESSARY TO "ARM TWIST" ANY PROVINCIAL ASSISTANCE AND WHAT WAS EVENTUALLY FORTHCOMING FELL FAR SHORT OF RICE DEVELOPMENT FEASIBILITY STUDIES AND SMACKED MORE OF A TOKEN EFFORT.
- (C) A REQUEST FOR A PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM AT WHITE DOG DESIGNED TO ASSIST YOUNGSTERS TO ENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BETTER EQUIPPED AND HOPEFULLY ACHIEVE BETTER PERFORMANCE LONG TERM.

THE INITIAL APRIL 8, 1976 REPLIES - "THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IS UNDER SEVERE FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS AND AS A RESULT NO NEW DAY CARE CENTRES WERE BUDGETED FOR 1976-7". (THE REQUEST FOR A CENTRE WAS MADE OCTOBER 31, 1975 - PRIOR TO ANY CONSTRAINTS WHICH BECAME OFFICIAL DECEMBER 1976.)

"IN ADDITION IT IS FELT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS A RESPONSIBILITY IN PROVIDING THESE CENTRES ON RESERVATIONS" (UNTRUE. THE PROVINCE HAS AGREED THROUGH COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO JOINTLY FUND THESE PROJECTS.)

THIS PROJECT DID EVENTUALLY PROCEED AFTER MUCH PERSEVERANCE.

(D) FISH FREEZER PROGRAM:

THE APRIL 8 LETTER INDICATED A PROGRAM OF STOCKING A COMMUNITY FREEZER WITH PROVINCIAL PURCHASED FISH WOULD BE CURTAILED.

"THE INCREASING DEVELOPMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESERVE RESIDENTS WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY INCOME FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOOD SUPPLIES" STATED THE PROVINCIAL REPLY.

IRONICALLY, FIFTEEN BAND MEMBERS HAD JOBS THE WEEK THIS REPLY WAS RECEIVED. FORTUNATELY, THE DECISION TO CURTAIL THE FREEZER PROGRAM WAS REVERSED BY THE PROVINCE.

SUBSEQUENTLY, THE CANADIAN SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, RECOGNIZING THE DIET DEFICIENCY IN YOUNGSTERS IN THE WHITE DOG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGREED TO TOTALLY FUND A SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A HIGH PROTEIN NUTRITIONAL MEAL TO SCHOOL CHILDREN. TO MANY CHILDREN, IT IS THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT MEAL THEY RECEIVE EACH DAY.

SOMETIME LATER, DONALD IRVINE, THE THEN MINISTER OF RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, PROPOSED THE AREA AROUND GRASSY NARROWS AND WHITE DOG BE TURNED INTO A NATIONAL PARK.

IT SOON BECAME CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROPOSED PARK WAS A $\frac{1}{4}$ MILE STRIP PARK ALONG THE RIVER'S EDGE ONLY - A RECOMMENDATION THAT HAD THE OBVIOUS MERITS TO THE PROVINCE OF PASSING TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH A "NATIONAL PARK", WITHOUT ENCROACHING ON PROVINCIAL TIMBER AND TOURIST CAMP AREAS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY IN A MEANINGFUL WAY FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AT WHITE DOG. THE PROVINCE HAS ADVISED THE BANDS THAT TO OBTAIN COMPENSATION, THEY MUST, ON THEIR OWN, TAKE COURT ACTION AGAINST REED LTD.

NO ONE WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY.

REED PAPER RESPONSE TO
THE CRISIS AT WHITE DOG

SINCE THE EARLY 1970'S WHEN THE DAMAGE OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION IN THE ENGLISH-WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM BECAME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, REED LTD. HAS CONTINUED TO DENY RESPONSIBILITY.

ON OCCASION REED LTD HAS ARGUED THAT THE MERCURY LEVELS COULD RESULT FROM NATURAL MERCURY SOURCES -- A CLAIM WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY LUDICROUS TO THOSE WITH ANY KNOWLEDGE OF MERCURY LEVELS.

REED HAS MADE NO OFFER TO ASSIST WHITE DOG IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER.

REED LTD. HAS SHOWN A LEVEL OF SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY IRRESPONSIBILITY THAT SURELY MUST DISQUALIFY THAT COMPANY FROM BEING GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY TO CUT OVER 18,000 SQUARE MILES OF FOREST IN THE RED LAKE-EAR FALLS AREA.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

CLEARLY, THE MAJOR DIFFICULTY WHITE DOG HAS FACED IS THE RELUCTANCE OF EITHER

- (A) REED PAPER LTD., OR
- (B) THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT

TO ACCEPT A ROLE IN ASSISTING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF OUR COMMUNITY IN THE LIGHT OF THE DISLOCATION CAUSED BY INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION AND HYDRO DAM FLOODING.

WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND -

- (1) IN SITUATIONS WHERE INDUSTRY, PROVINCIAL AGENCIES (ONTARIO HYDRO), PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN DISRUPTING ANY COMMUNITY, THAT A JOINTLY FUNDED AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO REBUILD THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FABRIC BE UNDERTAKEN BY
 - (A) THE INDUSTRY (REED LTD.)
 - (B) ONTARIO HYDRO
 - (C) ONTARIO GOVERNMENT
 - (D) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (D.I.A.N.D.)

THE CHURCHILL-NELSON RIVER DIVERSION PROGRAM WHEREBY LANDS FLOODED BY THIS HYDRO PROGRAM RECEIVE

- (A) FOUR ACRES OF CROWN LAND FOR EVERY ACRE FLOODED
- (B) AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND OF 5 MILLION DOLLARS,

JOINTLY FUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

MANITOBA HYDRO - 1.8 MILLION

MANITOBA GOVERNMENT - 1.6 MILLION

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - 1.6 MILLION

(c) OTHER SERVICES (SEE APPENDIX A - "AGREEMENT REACHED ON MANITOBA FLOODING DISPUTE".)

(2) WHERE NEW INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IS TO TAKE PLACE IN A REGION OF NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO, THAT INDIAN PEOPLE AND BANDS IN THE REGION BE PART OF THE PLANNING PROCESS TOGETHER WITH NON-INDIAN COMMUNITIES, THE INDUSTRY IN QUESTION AND THE PROVINCE.

(3) THAT THE PROVINCE, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY IN QUESTION PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS, AS PART OF EACH DEVELOPMENT, FOR THE INDIAN PEOPLE IN THE REGION.

(4) IN AN ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE THE CONFUSION CREATED BY JURISDICTIONAL CONFLICT AND AGREEMENTS BETWEEN FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS ON INDIAN-RELATED MATTERS, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL AND ECONOMIC EXPANSION ENTER INTO A JOINT NORTHLANDS AGREEMENT, SIMILAR TO THAT IN MANITOBA.

UNDER THE MANITOBA AGREEMENT, MANITOBA AND D.R.E.E.

JOINTLY CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY \$21,000,000 ANNUALLY
TO SMALL NORTHERN MANITOBA COMMUNITIES.

MANITOBA CONTRIBUTES \$ 9,000,000 ANNUALLY

D.R.E.E. CONTRIBUTES \$12,000,000 ANNUALLY

THESE FUNDS ARE USED TO PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF
SERVICES, FROM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS TO SEWAGE AND
WATER PROGRAMS.

SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND SUCH A FUND ELIMINATES THE
JURISDICTIONAL CONFLICTS AS WELL AS THE CONFUSION BANDS
USUALLY FACE IN SORTING OUT WHICH OF A MASS OF FEDERAL
AND PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS AND MINISTRIES THEY SHOULD
DEAL WITH ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.

ONTARIO HAS REFUSED TO SIGN SUCH AN AGREEMENT FOR
JOINT ACTION. AN INTERIM AGREEMENT ONLY EXISTS TO WHICH
ONTARIO CONTRIBUTES A MERE \$213,500 ANNUALLY.

AS LONG AS ONTARIO CONTINUES TO DRAW SUCH HARD LINES
ON WHAT AREAS ARE ITS JURISDICTIONAL CONCERN, THE INDIAN
IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WILL SUFFER.

(5) THE BAND WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS,
ITS CONCERN WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH THE PROVINCE AND

AND INDIAN AFFAIRS PROCESS ITS SUBMISSIONS. MUCH WORK AND CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO PROJECT DESIGNS AT THE BAND LEVEL, YET BUREAUCRATS OVER A THOUSAND MILES AWAY FREQUENTLY TURN DOWN PROJECTS WHICH THEY FEEL ARE IMPRACTICAL.

SURELY THE BAND IS MORE CAPABLE OF DETERMINING ITS OWN PRIORITIES.

Indian and
Northern Affairs

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord

copy to Isaac?
Simon S.

1-7736

HOLD FOR RELEASE
1:00 p.m. CST
August 16, 1977

AGREEMENT REACHED ON MANITOBA FLOODING DISPUTE

Winnipeg - (August 16, 1977) -- Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Warren Allmand today signed, on behalf of the federal government, the Churchill-Nelson Agreement which provides rights and benefits to five northern Manitoba Indian Bands as compensation for adverse effects on their communities of Manitoba's Lake Winnipeg Regulation and Churchill River Diversion Project. The other parties to the Agreement, which ends three years of negotiations on the matter, are the Northern Flood Committee (representing the Bands), Manitoba Hydro and the Government of Manitoba.

The project is designed to meet Manitoba's increasing power needs between the mid-1970s and the 1990s by the phased construction of several hydro plants in the Nelson River system. Planning started in the late 1950s and construction began in 1970. Late in 1973, Manitoba Hydro informed the Nelson House Band that some flooding on its reserves would be caused by the hydro project. The following year, all five Bands in the Nelson River Basin affected by the project--Nelson House, Cross Lake, Norway House, Split Lake and York Factory Bands--formed the Northern Flood Committee to represent their interests. Their concern was that the diversion of the Churchill River into the Nelson River, the regulation of Lake Winnipeg by the Jenpeg Dam, and the construction and operation of hydro plants there would have major adverse effects through flooding of reserve lands, loss of hunting, fishing and trapping areas, and related social and economic impacts.

The work of the Northern Flood Committee--both in preparing for and participating in the negotiations--has been funded since May, 1974 by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

Discussions began in the spring of 1974 between the Committee, the federal government, the province of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro. In February 1976 a mediator was appointed to speed the negotiations, and through his efforts and the co-operation of the parties, a memorandum of understanding was signed July 31, 1977, leading to the signing of the Final Agreement this w .

The Agreement stipulates:

- (a). Lands -- that Manitoba will provide each of the five Bands with new lands in exchange for lands on the reserves that will be flooded and otherwise affected (approximately 2,000 acres on the Nelson House Reserve and lesser areas on the other reserves), on the basis of four acres of provincial Crown land for every acre of reserve land affected. The exchange lands are to be selected by the Bands from areas designated in the Agreement, in which areas there will be a moratorium on development for five years. The agreement also sets limits for future water levels at the reserves.
- (b). Hunting, Fishing and Trapping -- that Manitoba will grant preferential rights to the Bands to hunt and fish within their trapline zones. The

present Trappers' Compensation Plan will be reviewed and a Fishermen's Compensation Plan will be negotiated, to compensate the beneficiaries for loss of income resulting from the project. A Wildlife Planning and Advisory Board, with majority representation from the Bands, will be established and funded by Manitoba.

- (c). Economic Development -- that a Band-controlled corporation will be established by the Bands to manage a \$5 million fund for the creation and expansion of businesses and jobs for their members. Manitoba Hydro will immediately contribute \$1.8 million for remedial works to be carried out by the corporation; Manitoba and Canada will each contribute \$1.6 million over a four-year period beginning April 1, 1978.
- (d). Employment -- that an employment task force, consisting of representatives of the Committee, Manitoba Hydro and the federal and provincial governments, will be established to increase employment for the Bands in the construction and operation of the hydro project.
- (e). Water Supplies -- that Canada and Manitoba will share equally the capital costs of improving water supply systems for the five communities.
- (f). Community Development -- that Canada, Manitoba and the Bands will co-operate in preparing development plans for the five communities by March 31, 1981.
- (g). Environmental Monitoring and Future Projects -- that Canada and Manitoba will monitor the environmental impacts of the Project; that Manitoba Hydro will give notice to the Indian communities of any significant change in water level that will affect the safety of boat travel and over-ice movements, and will consult with the communities before additional dams and related works are built.
- (h). Planned Works
The Agreement also provides that Manitoba Hydro undertake essential remedial works to protect and restore shorelines, replace docks, and relocate roads, houses and other structures, and assume the obligation to compensate for accidents resulting directly or indirectly from the project.

SCHEDULE B

*Manitoba
DRCB*SUMMARY OF COSTS - 1974-75

	PROGRAMS	FEDERAL* SHARE <i>60%</i>	PROVINCIAL SHARE <i>40%</i>	TOTAL
R A.	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES 1)			
ogram	1. Human Development	4,395,000	2,930,000	7,325,000
ogram	2. Community Services	1,050,000	700,000	1,750,000
ogram	3. Housing	410,400	273,600	684,000
	TOTAL	5,855,400	3,903,600	9,759,000
R B.	RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
ogram	1. Resource Use Planning	570,000	380,000	950,000
ogram	2. Community Economic Development	354,000	236,000	590,000
ogram	3. Resource Development	270,000	180,000	450,000
	TOTAL	1,194,000	796,000	1,990,000
R C.	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS			
ogram	1. Highway and Access Roads 2)	4,200,000	2,800,000	7,000,000
ogram	2. Air Transportation Facilities	936,000	624,000	1,560,000
ogram	3. Northern Transportation Strategy	150,000	100,000	250,000
	TOTAL	5,286,000	3,524,000	8,810,000
R D.	PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION			
ogram	1. Planning, Management and Administration	540,000	360,000	900,000
	TOTAL	540,000	360,000	900,000
	TOTAL COSTS (1974-75)	<u>12,875,400</u>	<u>8,583,600</u>	<u>21,459,000</u>

Ontario - OREC
Interim

CANADA - ONTARIO INTERIM SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT

ONTARIO NORTHLANDS

SCHEDULE "A"

Project Description Estimated Cost of Project
 \$

1. Life Skills

Provide life skills courses
to improve social functioning
of individual residents.

~~62,500~~

2. Teaching Homemaker Skills

Improve skills of area residents
in such fields as preparation of
food, family budgeting and sani-
tation.

~~21,000~~

3. Recreation Area

Develop camping and canoeing
facilities.

~~34,000~~

4. Identification of Manpower
Adjustment Study

Study to identify regional
manpower surpluses and
shortages, skill and
availability.

260,000 ~~- 25%~~

~~235,~~

~~130~~

~~115~~

5. Evaluation

Evaluate projects carried out
under this Interim Sub-
Agreement.

50,000

TOTAL

427,500

AREA CODE: 416 PHONE: 597-1500
EXT: 1366

JOHN STOBO PRICHARD, M.B., F.R.C.P. (LOND. & C.)

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK

555 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4S 1A5

24th May, 1976.

Mr.
Whitedog Indian Reserve,
Nr. Kenora,
Ontario.

Dear Mr.

We found some minor neurological signs when we examined you recently. These can be caused by mercury poisoning as well as from a number of other reasons. They are not serious and you should not worry about them but please do not eat any of the fish from your local contaminated waters.

I will be glad to send a more detailed report to you or your family physician if you wish.

Yours sincerely,

John Stobo Prichard

John Stobo Prichard
Professor,
University of Toronto

JSP/mr

5. Cone Picking

The Kenora District Office of the Ministry of Natural Resources anticipates a greatly increased program of cone picking over last year. Sufficient cone picking targets will provide increased employment opportunities in the area. A representative of the Kenora District Office will be contacting your Band later in the spring with additional details on this program.

6. Tree Planting Program

Unfortunately, there is virtually no tree planting stock in the Kenora nursery this year and consequently no major tree planting projects are planned. However, if future plans and budget are approved, there will be planting in the spring of 1977 in the Whitedog area which will employ 60 to 80 people for approximately four weeks.

7. Consultants to plan for Long Term Industrial Growth

The Provincial Government recognizes the need and desire of the Islington Band to create employment opportunities and economic stability over the long term on the reserve. However, there are limiting factors to development, such as isolation of the reserve from markets and sources of supply, which are difficult to overcome. The major potential for economic development on the reserves would most likely be based upon existing resources of the community and surrounding area.

It should be noted that the primary responsibility for economic development on Reserves is the responsibility of the Federal Government.

The Ministry of Industry and Tourism would be pleased to co-operate with any Federal initiatives in this instance.

8. Alternate Source of Protein

The Provincial government does not feel it can provide without charge, alternative food supplies to the Whitedog Reserve. As mentioned, the representative of Agriculture and Food can provide advice for the production of alternate protein sources on the Reserve. Furthermore, the increasing development of

Monday March 7th

Chief blames shutdown of fishing

Fifth Indian dies after drinking anti-freeze

KENORA (CP) — Police have confirmed that five residents of the nearby Whitedog Indian reserve died and four others were taken to hospital after they drank anti-freeze at a party last Friday.

Sgt. Earl Barclay of the Minaki detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police said an inquest probably will be held into the deaths.

Meanwhile, Chief Isaac Mandamin of the Whitedog reserve blamed social problems

created by the closing of the English-Wabigoon River system to commercial fishing. The system was closed in 1970 because of mercury pollution.

Chief Mandamin, who said he had tried to warn reserve residents about alcohol abuse, said he would raise the problem at a meeting of provincial and federal officials April 5 in Kenora at which mercury pollution will be discussed.

"It's just another instance of what I have been saying all along—the mercury has af-

fected the social wellbeing of all people here."

He said that both the Ontario Government and the federal Government are responsible for problems at the reserve, adding: "I can see why Quebec wants to separate."

Those who died were Darlene Michaud, 19, Doris Carpenter, 35, Josephine Kejick, 43, Lawrence Land, 38, and Mary Louise Smith, 41.

Joseph Leo Smith, husband of Mary Louise Smith, is in serious condition in hospital in

Winnipeg.

Police said three juveniles were treated and released from hospital here.

Provincial police patrolling the reserve on Saturday discovered the nine people suffering from poisoning and took them to hospital. Four of the victims died Sunday in Winnipeg. Mrs. Smith died there Monday.

Police said an empty container of anti-freeze, clearly marked poisonous, was discovered at the Kejick home.

OCT/1959

GRASSY NARROWS, Ontario.

" We think it would be alright to have a licence for rice. But all we have to do is to start to pick the rice around September.

And we dont have to spoil it. Some start early and they spoil all the rice.

On one Reserve 2 years from now
Since they made that Dam we be filled with water.
We've got no hay any place it under water.
Right in the Reserve 13 small lakes they used to be some rice.

When we use to pick the rice we didn't finish it because we had too much.

But we want that person whose filling our Res. with water to pay us how much his spoiling our Reserve.

If he doesn't want to do that will he please let the water where the Dams are to go down. Its enough for them to fill one Lake.

So we wish you to help us too.

As far as we concern If they dont let the water go we won't have any more rice.

Sign

Chief Pierre Tay Pay Way Kejick
from Grassy Narrows Ont."

SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS
AND RESULTING LOSSES TO WHITEDOG

LOSS TO WHITEDOG	CAUSE	GOVERNMENT AGENCY, MINISTRY OR INDUSTRY INVOLVED
FLOODING OF THE COMMUNITY AT ONE-MAN LAKE - WHITEDOG RESERVE	- 1957 CONSTRUCTION OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM	- ONTARIO HYDRO
(A) DESTRUCTION AND FLOODING OF HOUSES FORCING RESIDENTS TO RELOCATE.		
(B) DESTRUCTION OF LAKE BY DEBRIS FROM HYDRO TIMBER CUTS, CURRENTLY CLOGGING THE LAKE.		
(C) ELIMINATION OF TRAP LINES.		
(D) NO ELECTRICITY WAS PROVIDED TO OUR COMMUNITY - IT WAS SENT SOUTH AND NOT UNTIL 1968 WAS ELECTRICAL POWER MADE AVAILABLE TO THE RESERVE.		
(E) NO LAND COMPENSATION FOR FLOODED ACREAGE.		
FLOODING OF WILD RICE AREAS ANNUALLY	- 1957 CONSTRUCTION OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM	- ONTARIO HYDRO
(A) LOSS OF INCOME - IN PERIODS OF HIGH WATER LEVELS WILD RICE YIELDS HAVE AVERAGED APPROX. 4,500 LBS/YEAR. THIS FOR APPROX. 11 OF THE PAST 15 YEARS STUDIED.		- LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD

LOSS TO WHITEDOG	CAUSE	GOVERNMENT AGENCY, MINISTRY, OR INDUSTRY INVOLVED
------------------	-------	---

CONTINUED ...

(A) IN 4 OF THE PAST 15 YEARS WATER LEVELS HAVE BEEN NATURALLY LOW ENOUGH NOT TO BE EFFECTED BY HYDRO OR LAKE OF THE WOODS PROGRAMMES.

1972 - 154,000 LBS.
1973 - 187,000 LBS.
1976 - 200,000 LBS (+)
1977 - 200,000 LBS (+)

- COMMERCIAL VALUE OF 1977 CROP TO RESIDENTS - \$200,000 (+)

- NO COMPENSATION FOR CROP DESTRUCTION

(B) LOSS OF AN HISTORICAL SOURCE OF PROTEIN FOR DIET.

FLOODING AND DESTRUCTION OF RICE PROTECTIVE DAMS

- WASHED AWAY BY MASSIVE HYDRO RELEASE IN 1973

- 1973 CROP - 1,600 LBS.

- 1974 CROP - NIL LBS.

TRAPPING - DESTRUCTION BY FLOODING

- HIGH WATER LEVELS CAUSED BY HYDRO DAM AT WHITEDOG FALLS HAVE REDUCED TRAPPING AS ANIMALS HAVE BEEN FORCED TO MOVE.

- RELEASES FROM HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAMS

- ONTARIO HYDRO

- LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD

- CONSTRUCTION OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM AND ANNUAL RELEASES

- ONTARIO HYDRO

- LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD

LOSS TO WHITEDOG	CAUSE	GOVERNMENT AGENCY, MINISTRY, OR INDUSTRY INVOLVED
LOSS OF BASIC FOOD STAPLE - FISH FROM THE ENGLISH-WABIGOON RIVER SYSTEM	- REED LTD. INDUSTRIAL MERCURY RELEASES.	- MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT - REED LTD.
(A) MERCURY LEVELS IN FISH IN THE RIVER SYSTEM ARE SO HIGH THAT NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE HAVE ADVISED RESIDENTS TO EAT NONE OF THE FISH. HISTORICALLY FISH WERE A STAPLE IN OUR DIET.		
N.B. CURRENTLY, CANADIAN SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND IS PROVIDING NUTRITIONAL SCHOOL LUNCHES TO STUDENTS OF THE WHITEDOG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.		
LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME	- INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION - REED LTD.	- MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES - MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT - REED LTD.
(A) LOSS OF COMMERCIAL FISHING - BANNED IN 1970 BY THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES.		
(B) LOSS OF GUIDING, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER TOURIST CAMP RELATED EMPLOYMENT.	- INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION - REED LTD.	- MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT - REED LTD.
- 130 ANNUAL JOBS LOST THROUGH THE CLOSURE OF LAMM'S BALL LAKE LODGE.		
- OTHER JOBS AT OTHER CAMPS.		
- \$300,000 ANNUAL INCOME TO GUIDES AT GRASSY NARROWS RESERVE.		

LOSS TO WHITEDOG	CAUSE	GOVERNMENT AGENCY MINISTRY, OR INDUSTRY INVOLVED
HEALTH - DANGEROUS MERCURY LEVELS IN RESIDENTS - MEDICALLY DIAGNOSED EFFECTS	- INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION - REED LTD.	- MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT - REED LTD.
- DR. JOHN PRITCHARD OF THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN EXAMINED 86 RESIDENTS OF WHITEDOG AND GRASSY NARROWS - 31 POSSIBLE CASES OF MERCURY POISONING WITH CERTAIN SYMPTOMS.		
LOSS OF PRIDE; DESTRUCTION OF SOCIAL FABRIC OF COMMUNITY	- HYDRO FLOODING - INDUSTRIAL MERCURY POLLUTION - REED LTD. - LOSS OF INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT	- ONTARIO HYDRO - REED LTD. - LAKE OF THE WOODS CONTROL BOARD
- A HISTORICALLY QUIET COMMUNITY HAS BEEN DISLOCATED AND DISRUPTED BY BOTH HYDRO FLOODING AND INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION.		
- DRAMATICALLY INCREASED INCIDENCE OF <u>ALCOHOLISM</u> AND <u>VIOLENCE</u> .		

BINDING SECT. AUG 18 1980

GOVT PUBNS

